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TOMB RAIDER 4

See more of Lara's latest (and last?) adventure than anywhere else

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Colin McRae Rally 2 First shots ever
Dino Crisis Full playtest
Resident Evil 3 Gruesome pics

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09>

9 771360 317022

A satellite image of the Earth's surface, focusing on Europe and Africa. The image shows the continent's outlines in green and brown, representing land cover. Overlaid on the land are various shades of blue and white, representing different types of clouds and atmospheric conditions. The image is set against a dark background, likely space, with a grid pattern visible at the bottom, suggesting it is a projection or a map.

The playing field:

The website:
www.dreamcast-europe.com



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DINO CRISIS p38



INSTANT EXPERT

Stuck? No probs, we're here to help

Driver p48

How to complete every single mission

Final Fantasy VII p58

What the top Enemy Skills do and where to find them

Colin McRae Rally 2

Check out the first ever shots of this awesome off-road racer - you won't find 'em anywhere else! p37



The first red-hot screenshots are inside!

Make your own game

Create Metal Gear Solid 2 in under five minutes p64



Blab p16

Latest pics and info on the hottest games

Resident Evil 3: Nemesis **Star Wars: Phantom Menace** Wu Tang: Shaolin Style **GTA 2** Quake II **This is Football** Mission: Impossible **Formula 1 99**



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p18 Phantom Menace: Jedi extravaganza



p20 GTA 2: Bad-ass crime capers



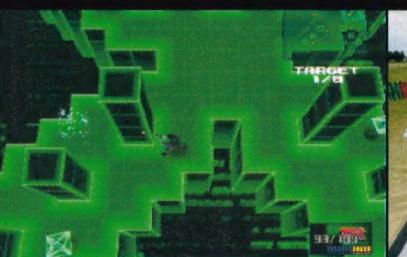
p22 Quake II: Violent fragfest



p24 This is Football: Awesome skills



p26 Mission Impossible: Spyadelic fun

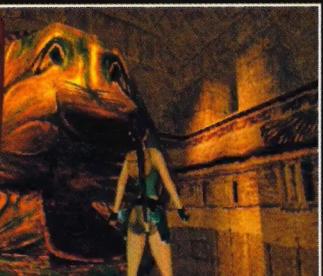


p29 Metal Gear VR Missions: Snake sequel



p34 Formula 1 99: Supercharged racer

THE WORKS



■ See more shots of Lara's new game



■ You won't find 'em anywhere else

RATED ON TEST

Every new release this month!

- p68 FA Premier League STARS Premier League kickabout with all your fave teams
- p70 Sled Storm Mega-fast multiplayer SnoCat racer
- p71 Kurushi Final Hard-as-nails puzzler that eggheads'll love
- p72 Speed Freaks Sickly sweet racer that's high on speed
- p74 G-Police 2 Sci-fi coppers dish out tough justice
- p75 Kagaro Deception 2 Kill heroes in this booby-trapped dungeon game
- p76 Point Blank 2 This sharp-shooting gun game hits the bullseye
- p77 Um Jammer Lammy Parappa sequel trades rhymes for rock
- p78 Chessmaster 2 Brain-busting game of skill and cunning
- p78 Fisherman's Bait Fish on the 'Station - cod almighty, it's reel-y cool
- p80 Resident Evil 2 Platinum Ultimate horror-fest given the £20 treatment

Summer Blag!

Stay cool during the long, hot summer with these awesome competition prizes p44

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to page 35 now!



TOMB RAIDER IV

p6 Stunning shots of Lara's ultimate adventure

The Works: Tomb Raider IV first look!



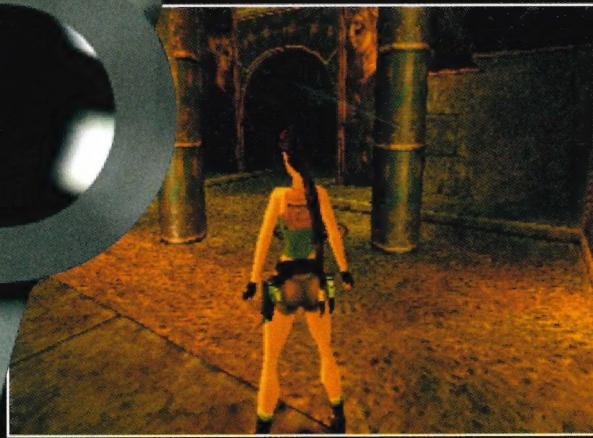
Lara's back in Egypt for a millennial showdown with her one-time tutor in the final Tomb Raider on the current PlayStation. Exclusive shots show it could be the best ever.

DUEL ON THE

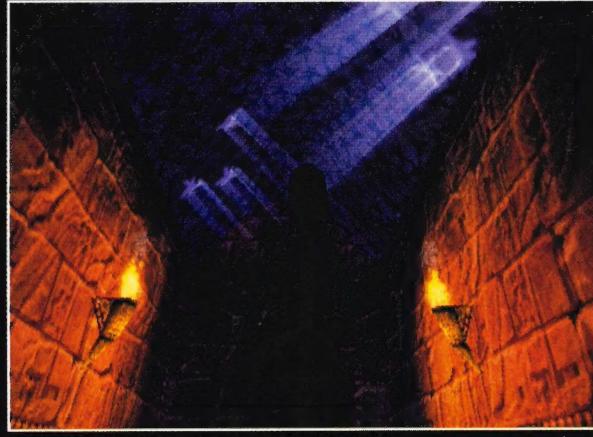
■ OUT NOVEMBER ■ BY EIDOS ■ COSTS £44.99 ■ PLAYERS 1 ■ COMPATABILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD
■ WE LOOK AT COMBAT, STORY, CHARACTERS, PUZZLES, GEAR, LARA'S DIARY

LARA CROFT GOES APE

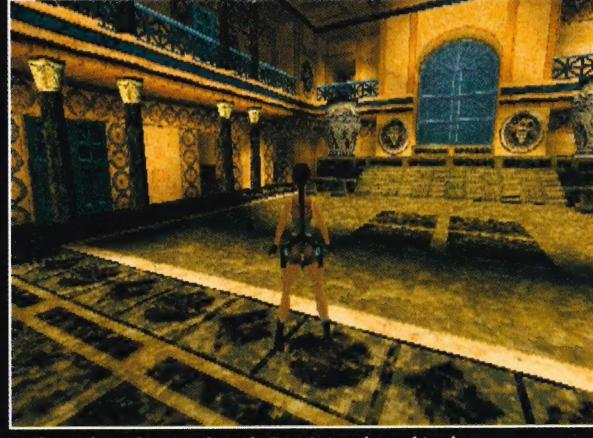
It's that time of the year again. The time when the 'Station's busty mascot climbs into her odd little garters and her D-cup to disturb the sleep of the dead. But November heralds her final visit before PlayStation 2 arrives and the good news is that she's firing on both barrels. Lessons from her clumsy last outing have been learned and it looks like this is hot, hot, hot.



■ Your view of Lara will not look dramatically different in outing number four



■ But the new environments are absolutely stunning

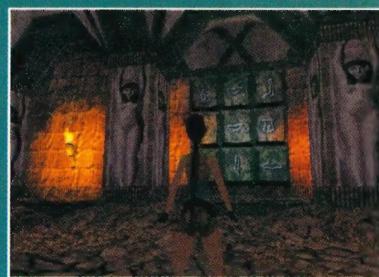


■ Almost the entire game is set in Egypt's temples and tombs

The Works: Tomb Raider IV first look!

Get fresh with Mizz Croft

Lara's goodbye to PlayStation 1 is the excuse needed to inject a bit of brilliance. It's got everything it needs to be a real tear-jerker of a finale for Ms Croft. EVERYTHING has been spruced up. The combat's all new, the puzzles have been given a polish and the graphics are sharper than ever before. And there's a smooth-as-you-like plot that details all the 'missing' bits of Lara's action-packed life.



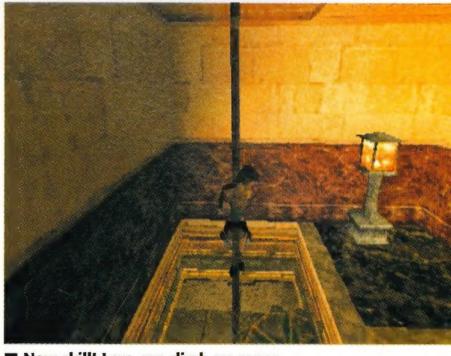
■ The graphics have been sharpened up

She shimmies, swings and pulls!

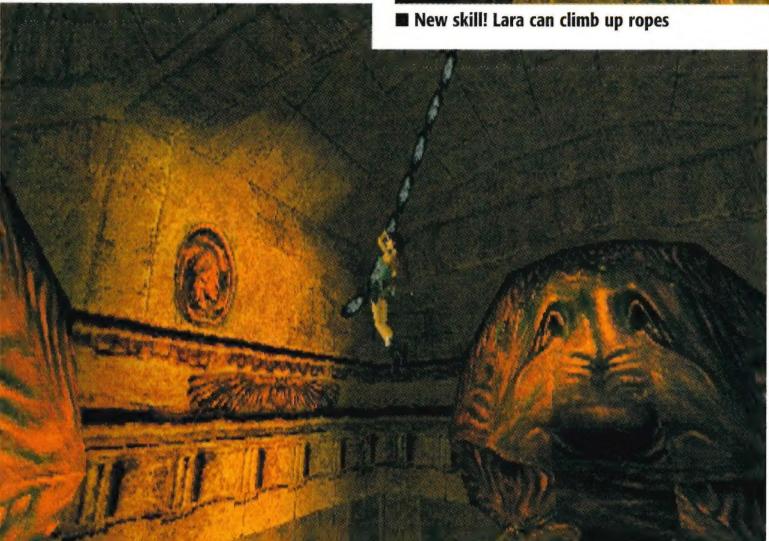
Lara can do new stuff. She can climb ropes and shimmy round corners, as well as swing on objects. She can kick down doors, she can pull little levers in holes in the wall, she can search bodies. Hell, Lara can even use crowbars to lever open doors. What a clever girl.



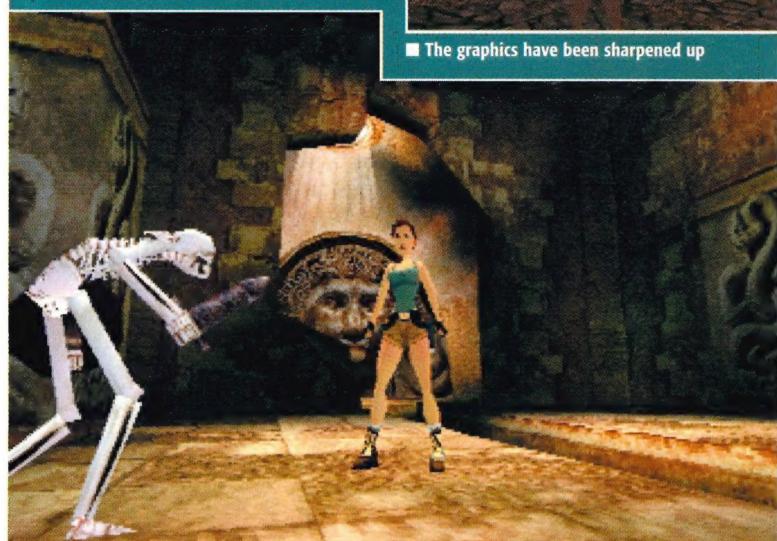
■ Lara can now muck around with cogs and stuff to solve puzzles and uncover hidden areas



■ New skill! Lara can climb up ropes



■ She can now swing on chains to get to hard-to-reach places, which often leads to hidden gear



■ Lara's gun still automatically targets enemies, but now it's easier to switch aim between bad guys



■ Tomb IV is crammed with brain-teasers



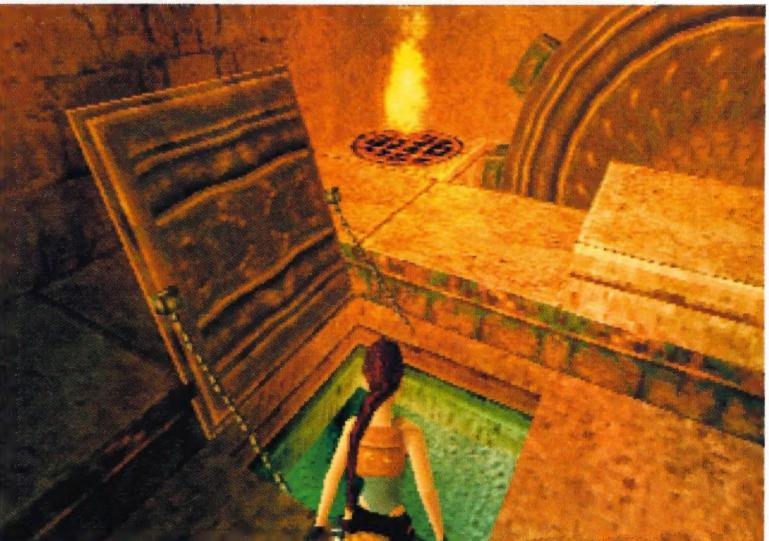
■ Classic Tomb 1 school of level design? Yup

Thundering guns!

The combat's been wisely rejigged for TR4. No more sideways gymnastics with your guns auto-locking onto one bloke. Instead the auto-aim's more fluid, allowing you to choose which enemy to fire at and also giving you the freedom to change targets mid-battle. No more holding down shoot and waiting for them to die, then.



■ In Tomb IV you can't just hold down the trigger, stand well back and wait for them to die



■ Look! Lara can now open trapdoors. Goddamn, this girl's got brains

The Mummy

The idea here is that Lara's awakened an old, evil god called Set while exploring a tomb in Egypt. Of course, putting Set back to sleep isn't just a question of slipping a couple of pills into his drink. Nope, the only way to get Set back in his bed is to summon Horus, his brother, on the hour of the Millennium. And where does the little bleeder have to be called back from? A bloody great tomb of course. That's where our ponytailed pin-up comes in.



■ It's about time he changed the sheets

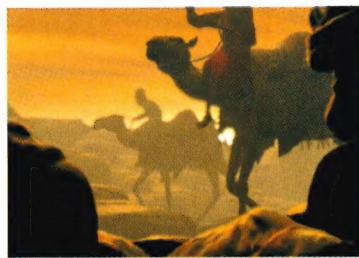
'In-yer-face fights with Egyptian nasties'

A game with Set and match

What's cool here is that the whole thing blends seamlessly into one adventure. Cool video bits link a plot set in actual locations in ancient Egypt. And the plot gets pretty complex, because there's not one but two baddies after her ass: the evil god Set who Lara awakens, and Von Croy, Lara's arch-enemy and former mentor. Think Tomb Raider meets Star Wars.



■ Lara must face her arch-nemesis mentor, the sinister Von Croy



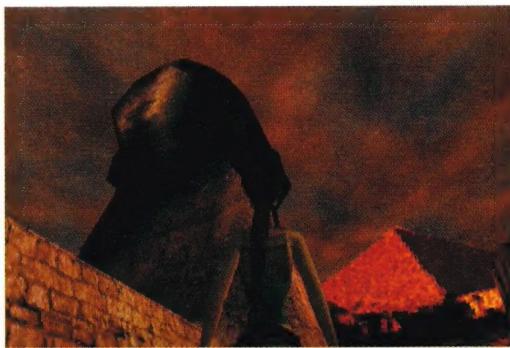
■ Go back to Egypt for a millennial bust-up



■ There's a 'Lost Ark' feel to this adventure



■ The Egyptian locations are absolutely spot on



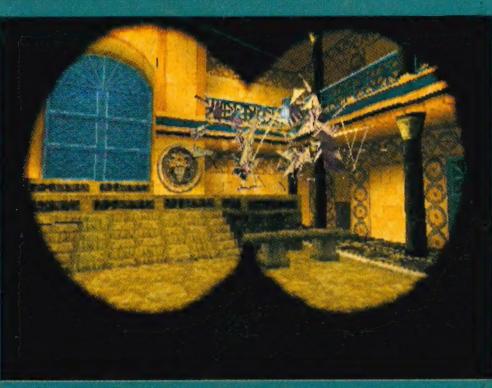
■ Some of 'em are even places you'll recognise

'I'll have a combo please'

What's going to be ultra-cool in Lara's last fling is the puzzles. They've been completely overhauled, thanks to Lara's new inventory system. Lara can now combine items and use them to get weird combination effects. You're able to combine your binoculars with your guns for long-range shooting, or use sticks to set fire to dry leaves. Very clever.



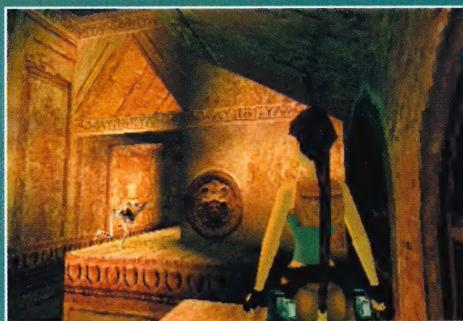
■ Some of the locations are extremely claustrophobic



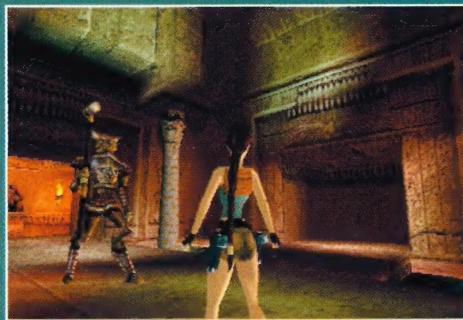
■ Combine the gun and binos for awesome sniper action

A pack of smart nasties

In earlier Tomb Raiders the baddies were so dumb it seemed cruel to kill 'em. This time, although you've got more long-distance weapons to play with, the enemies won't stand around waiting to die as you pick them off from a faraway ledge.



■ The enemy intelligence has been massively beefed



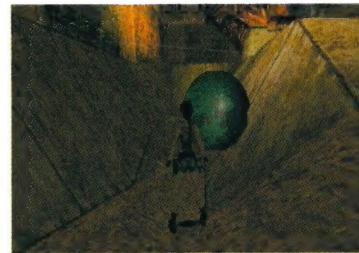
■ So the fights are going to be a lot more interesting

The one-stop puzzle plot

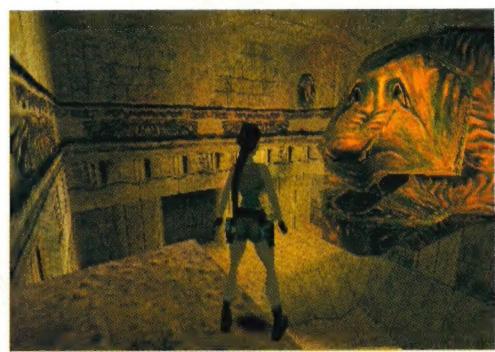
A few of the puzzles in Tombs 2 and 3 tended to be about legwork and not much else. Find the first switch, then take a deep breath and run five miles through winding tunnels to the second one, and repeat. Here, all the elements you need to solve each puzzle will be in one place. You just need the brains to figure 'em out.



■ All the things you need to solve the puzzle are in one place



■ Use your inventory wisely



■ It's just a question of putting them together

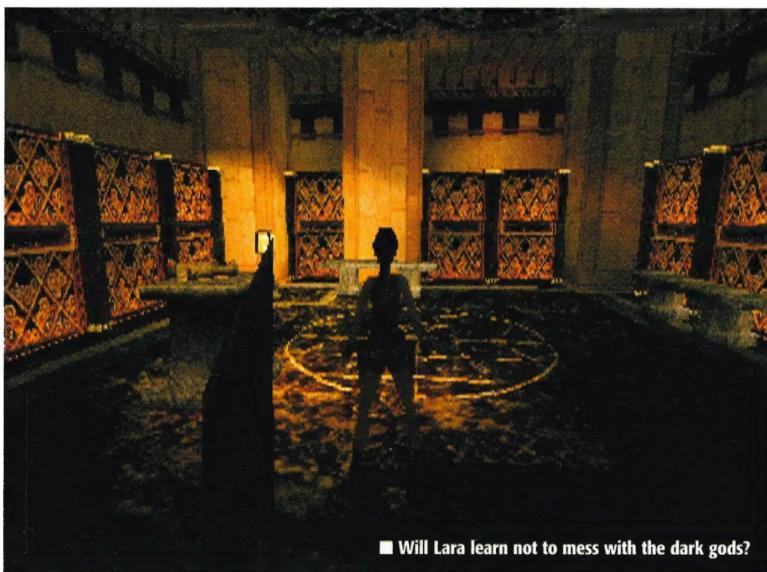


■ Loads of the puzzles are ultra-tricky. Even Lara's gonna find it tough

The Works: Tomb Raider IV first look!

What is 'The Last Revelation'?

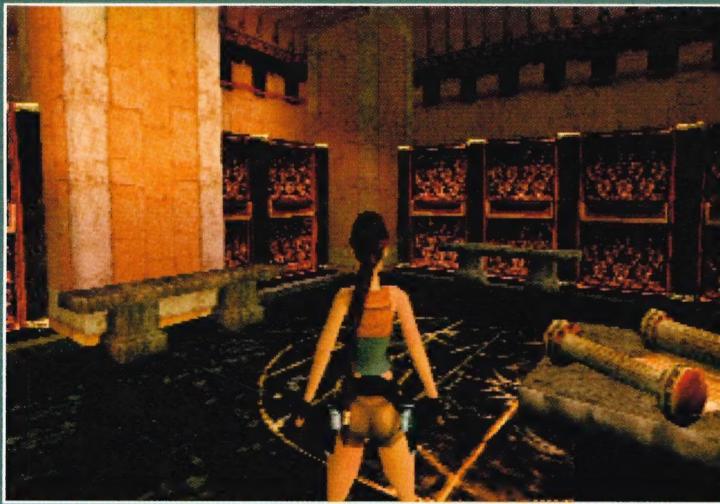
The full title of this one is Tomb Raider IV: the Last Revelation. Which makes us wonder, what happens to Lara in the end? An almighty struggle with the man in the khaki suit and the evil god she's awakened, for sure. But will it really be the end? Check our test soon.



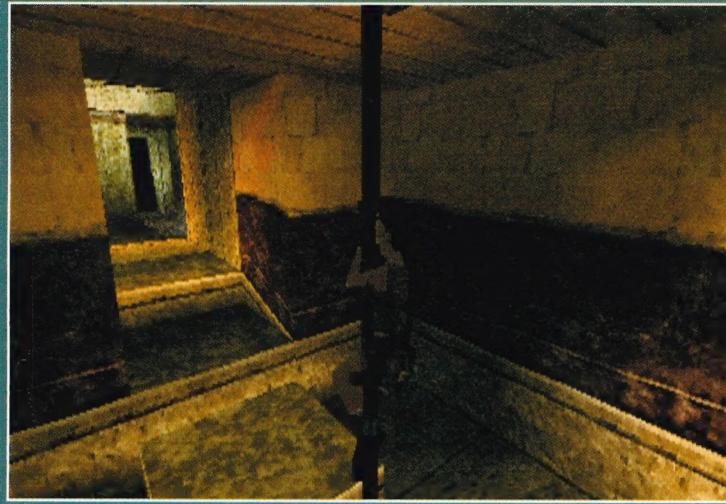
■ Will Lara learn not to mess with the dark gods?

Dear Diary...

Because this is Lara's last outing on the existing 'Station', a lot of the background about why our favourite brassy minx likes to spend her working life mooching around trap-filled shitholes gets filled in. This is done in Lara's diary, which also fills itself in as you play to give you hints and info about the levels.



■ What trickery is this? Enter a puzzle filled room and you could use your diary to suss out tips



■ The diary will sometimes point you in the right direction, even if it's straight up

plus

We'd like to say...

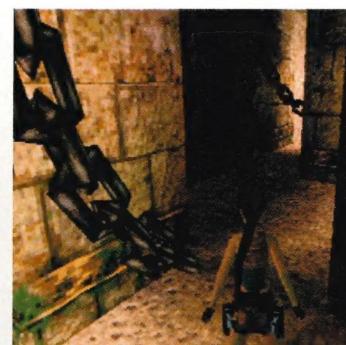
We've got high hopes for this to be the best Tomb Raider since Lara appeared on the 'Station' all those years ago. It looks like a lot of our little Lara niggles from earlier adventures have been dealt with, such as the over-simplistic combat and emphasis on all-out action. There's a lot of cool new stuff too, like moves and the way she can combine weapons and objects. We'll have more on this little gem once we've given it a full playtest.

A new era in tomb design!

If you're expecting the tombs here to bear striking similarities to the ones in the first three, think again. The old 'big sandstone block' decor is intact, but there's all sorts of new stuff in there. Rising platforms, breakable walls, trip wires, rotating hubs, hanging switches and direction puzzles where Lara will have to use her all-new compass. Tricky.



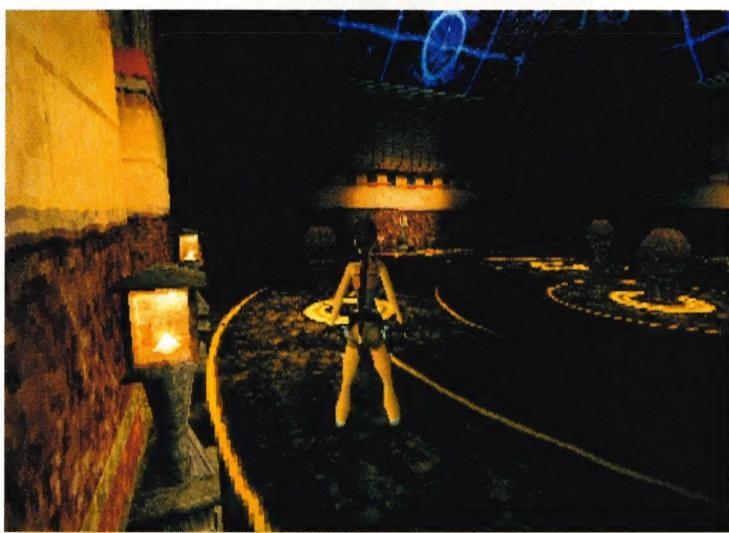
■ The decor looks absolutely brilliant



■ You can interact with most of the scenery



■ The scenery's loads more interesting than in previous Tomb Raider's



■ The puzzles are a lot harder too, although Lara's diary can be used if you're really stuck



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THE LESBIANS ARE BACK!

Hi guys! You said we should drop you a line, so here we are. Frankly, we're flattered that we're still remembered and even appear to have some fans. We haven't written for while because we appeared to have opened the lesbian floodgates - you started getting letters from others trying to 'outdo' us and we never intended to start a Best Lesbians contest.

For all our fans curious about what we look like, PlayStation Plus has damn near put us on its covers. Teri on Issue 41 (**the one on the left**) and me on Issue 42 (**the one on the right**).

Of course, with all the hot weather lately, it's been too warm for us to give each other a good licking (on a PlayStation game that is) but here's our view on who should play Lara in the movie. We think it should be Catherine Zeta-Jones. She may not be upper-class English but she's British. Most importantly, she's definitely got Lara's face. We love you all!

Zoe & Teri, Kent

The Plus team was once described as 'vile, women-hating trash'.

All women are good so welcome back Zoe and Teri!

'How do I know if I'm a lesbian or not?'

'Cos you're into bras rubbing - boom, boom!'



SILENT HILL DEMO

Thanks a lot for the Silent Hill demo. I reckon you lot underscored the game 'cos after playing it I've bought the full game and reckon it's definitely worth 95% or more. What are you guys on?

Danny Pochee, Surrey

Twining's English Breakfast tea.

SMOKEY'S BANNED IT

Last month you ran a letter where a young man was talking about giving up smoking. In your reply, you encouraged him to start again. I'm a mother of a young teenager and I think it is highly irresponsible to encourage young people to indulge in this filthy habit. Surely you have a duty not to encourage him or others?

Sheena Wilson, Borders
Yes Sheena, we do. But we've identified Teddy Westlake as a 26-year-old which means he is in the autumn of his years by our measure. So Teddy, grab the decanter, gulp single malt and go senile.

■ Croft goes Cuban

TWO LITTLE, TWO LATE?

What's happening with PlayStation 2? You guys haven't run anything on it for ages. Are there any new screenshots and stuff? What games are there going to be? How powerful is it?

Dave McCartney, Hull

We HAVE just had some news on PlayStation 2. It may be the most boring news you've heard. We now know you'll be able to use your Dual Shock pad with it. Crumbs! Plus, we know that it'll have an Internet connection, but there's speculation over whether it'll use existing

wire-based technology, modems, full-spectrum fibre-optics or... see what we mean? Dull as hell. See the real console in our November issue.

FINAL STRAW 1

I buy your mag every month and read it over and over again until next month, and I love it, apart from a couple of your reviews. In your June edition you gave Final Fantasy VII 86%. It's quite obviously the best game on PlayStation, so why give it such a low score? Plus you always give ISS games a really high score, and they're shit. I reckon I could do a loads better job.

Paul Murphy, Stroud

FINAL STRAW 2

We're disgusted by your review and rating of Final Fantasy VII. Do you have a death wish? You stated that this is a boring game. Did you come to this conclusion before or after your lobotomy? Or perhaps you are related by blood to your uncle?

Now here's the killer. We have completed FFVII four times and we're not bored and we do have social lives.

Chris and James, London

We're very pleased for you both. Look at the picture of reviewer Rob top right. Yes, he is related to his uncle. Yes, he has had a lobotomy. He is being removed from this office as we write.

SILENCE IS GOLDEN

I played Silent Hill and your review's just so wrong. It's definitely one of the best games ever released on PlayStation: loads better than Resident Evil 2 and at least as good as the first one. I know the combat's a bit dull, and there's a bit too much exploring in there but the atmosphere's brilliant all the way through and there's some well scary bits in there. Are you becoming a bunch of spoilt brats or what?

Kenny White, Edinburgh

No. Now go away.

We make PlayStation

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WOW. THAT'S AMAZING

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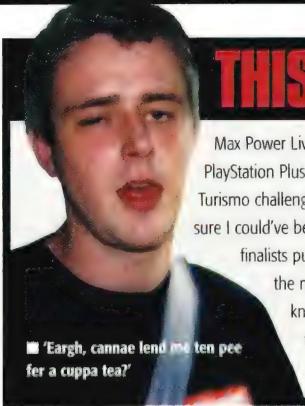
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JAIMIE SMITH: AN APOLOGY

PlayStation Plus offers its sincerest apologies to its art editor Jaime Smith. We're sorry he can't help being an arrogant, hoier-than-thou, sponge-clenching, brown-shirted, propeller-headed, juice-guzzling, gimp-legged, flicky-toed, saliva-drenched, co-worker. Really, bloody sorry.





THIS MAN: PLONKER

Max Power Live was excellent but the PlayStation Plus bloke hosting the Gran Turismo challenge seemed a total plonker. I'm sure I could've beaten those times that the

finalists put in. It seems stupid to limit the mods you can do to the cars. I know you'll think this view might have something to do with me not qualifying. But

■ 'Eargh, cannae lend me ten pee fer a cuppa tea!'

why didn't you let us mod the cars and show what a real fast time is?

Daz Cartwright, Solihull

You didn't qualify because you weren't fast enough. Seems reasonable to us. As to the total plonker, that was Rob Waugh. He writes reviews, his contract clearly states. Fergodsake, can any one send him some money and get him off our backs and off the streets?

NUCLEAR STRIKE

In your last month's news you said PlayStation 2 was going to be powerful enough to make H-bombs. How does that work?

Dan Chapman, Southall

Collect enriched plutonium and uranium-238 from the former Soviet republics. Buy aluminium casings direct from Cuba. Attach cable from PlayStation AV Multiout socket to material. Stand well back. Guess this means we'll get a load more letters from irate mothers. Oh well...



IT'S A GAMES BONANZA!

Thanks for the £5 off HMV vouchers. At HMV they had an offer where all their PlayStation games were £29.99 or less. So it turned out I got Driver and Smash Court Tennis for £25 each using the vouchers.

Also, in the June issue, Jonathan Cartwright wrote in with a Trainspotting-type Metal Gear poem. The same poem was in a May issue of another mag so he must have copied it.

Steve, by e-mail

SEQUELITIS

I heard there was going to be a Tomb Raider IV. Is it going to be just the same as the other three? It doesn't seem like there's any good new games on PlayStation any more: it's all just sequels that aren't that much different from the previous ones. Resident Evil

3, Gran Turismo 2, Tekken 3, Tomb Raider

IV: see what I mean? When's the

next really good new game going to come out, or are we going to have to wait for

PlayStation 2 for that?

Yours disgruntled, Jason Cross, Lincs

There's always new, class games being released. And as to the sequels thang, Tekken 3, Resident Evil 3 and GT2 are all looking cool as. Not original, but polished.

A MOANY GIT WRITES

I bet you lot don't print this. My complaint is, what's happened to naked ladies? What happened to swearing? What happened to rudely slagging off reader's letters? What happened to pork pies?

Garth Ennis, Northumberland

Garth, you're beautifully wrong on all counts and here's why: 1) We have printed

this. 2) Those lovely pants people at Anne Summers keep bunging us pictures of women we'd happily kiss such as this booty. 3) Bums. 4) Contact us again and we'll shit in your skull. 5) Pork pies are past it. The future is the 99p curry from Asda. We could be wrong on this last point.



DID YOU WIN THE APRILLIAS?

ALRIGHT, YOU CAN STOP PHONING US TO SEE IF YOU'VE WON

Aprilia communications manager Paul Walker (l) and PlayStation Plus ed Adam Smallman (r) draw the three winners



WINNERS CHOSEN

Three lucky bleeders have scooped the £2,000 Aprilia Area 51s scooters. Their names were drawn by Aprilia's marketing and communications manager Paul Walker at Motorcycle City in London's Clapham. The three Aprilias which PlayStation Plus offered as prizes in June attracted a massive response. Big thanks to our mates at Aprilia for offering the bikes. Take a peek in your local Aprilia dealers to see the cool Area 51.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

- FACTORY WORKER MARK JOHNSON, 23, FROM SCUNTHORPE, NORTH LINCS (LEFT)
- STUDENT JAMIE HOOPER, 19, FROM FERNDOWN IN DORSET. (CENTRE)
- SALES MANAGER PAUL SCOTT-SIMONS, 29, FROM LUTTERWORTH IN LEICESTERSHIRE. (RIGHT)

MANY THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO ENTERED AND GOOD LUCK IN THIS MONTH'S MIGHTY FREEBIE BLAG ON PAGES 44-47



TAMARA WANTS TO HATE HERSELF
FOR LOVING HIM. All Keith wants
is a spanking gorgeous Pot Noodle



POT AND POT NOODLE ARE REGISTERED TRADE MARKS OF KNORR NAEHRMITTEL AG

Blab

■ p18 The Phantom Menace
■ p19 Wu-Tang: Shaolin Style

■ p20 Grand Theft Auto 2
■ p22 Quake II

There're some monster games coming to a 'Station near you soon and we've got all the latest shots and red-hot info you won't find anywhere else. Stick with us and we'll see you right.

■ OUT FEBRUARY ■ BY EIDOS ■ PLAYERS 1 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Resident Evil 3: Nemesis

Gore galore as the 'Station's slickest adventure lurches back to your screens.

It's like Res Evils 1 and 2, but the action just doesn't let up. Ever. In the last two you'd be blasting zombies for a bit, then you'd come up against a puzzle that stopped you dead. Here, if you stop to puzzle, you ARE dead. See, the Nemesis (that's 'eight-foot-tall zombie with bazooka' to you and me), follows you throughout, and if you slow up at all, he'll tear you limb from limb. Nasty.

Dr Evil

What's extra cool is how you can alter the course the game takes. At certain points, like when the Nemesis catches you and a video sequence shows him warming up for a rocket blast/spine-splitting blow, a quick-fire menu pops up allowing you to choose between two courses of action - usually either running for cover or staying to fight. The choices you make open up very different paths through the game, so even when you've wiped out the zombie horde once, there's plenty more to come back to.

RESIDENT EVIL 3: NEMESIS
The Resident Evil formula has always been a sure-fire winner, but the game-play tweaks that've been added here will make this Res Evil the best of the lot. Rammed with blood, blasting and brain-busting puzzles, this is looking extra cool.



■ Even a shotgun blast to the bone doesn't bring this bloke down



■ This insect freak tries to claw your skin off



■ Jill's not safe wherever she goes. Hell, they even climb down walls to get her ass



■ This here's the Nemesis. He's very hard



■ He's not gonna get up from that one. It's sick, yeah, but we can't get enough of it



■ Two on one zombie blasting action



■ The detail on Jill Valentine is awesome



■ That's gonna leave one helluva lovebite

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■ p32 War of the Worlds
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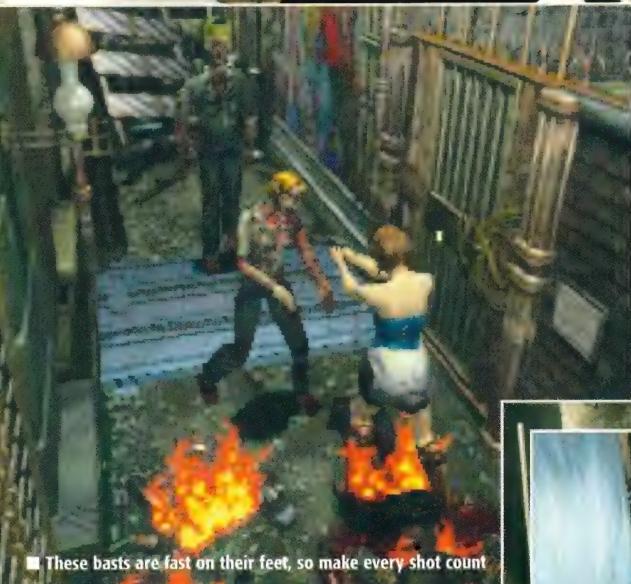
'Stop for a second and the Nemesis will tear you limb from limb'



■ Thought the other two were gory? You ain't seen nuthin'



■ Death from above



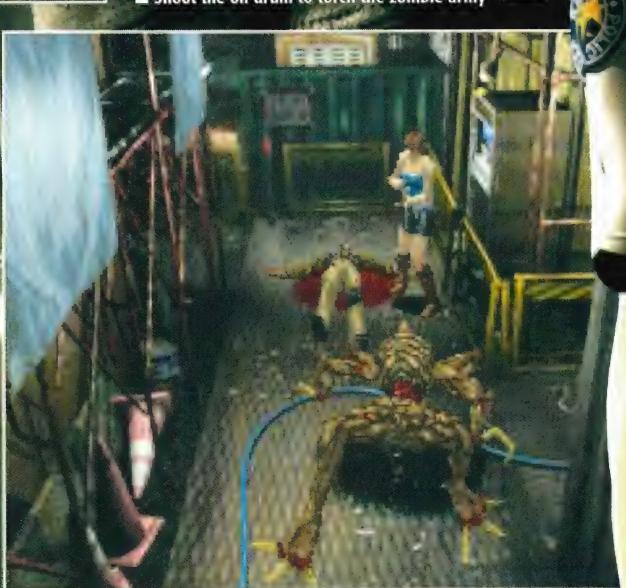
■ These basts are fast on their feet, so make every shot count



■ Shoot the oil drum to torch the zombie army



■ In Res 3 zombies team up and attack in big groups



■ Having hacked one sap to death, the spider-thing goes for Jill. Luckily she's dishing out buckshot for an appetiser

■ OUT SEPTEMBER ■ BY ACTIVISION ■ PLAYERS 1 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Star Wars: The Phantom Menace

Just as George Lucas's wallet is warned it should go to Weightwatcher classes, here comes another Star Wars spin-off. Great.

If you can still hear the words 'Jar Jar Binks' without reaching for a barf bag or a revolver, you might be in the market for the Game of the Film. You play Jedis Qui-Gon Jinn and Obi-Wan, Queen Amidala and Captain Panaka in a 3D adventure which follows the plot of the film.

How wuude!

On your quest to save the people of Naboo, you'll have to meet hundreds of people and solve loads of role-playing-type puzzles, as well as slugging your way through straight-

out-the-film action sequences. And worry not, you DO get to get to do the lightsaber duel with Darth Maul.

Gungan no liken

We've played the PC version and it wasn't what we'd hoped for. The puzzles are dull, the action's slow and the graphics stink. Unfortunately the PlayStation version's supposed to be the same, but with even worse graphics. Things aren't looking good.

plus Not looking too promising, sadly.



■ Use lightsabers to defend yourself



■ There's loads of accurate locations in there



■ The big Destroyers are pretty fearsome



■ The big Destroyers are pretty fearsome



■ There's plenty of dialogue to get to grips with



■ The graphics look absolutely crap, sadly

The Wu-Tang Clan ain't nuthin' to f' wit

■ OUT DECEMBER ■ BY ACTIVISION ■ PLAYERS 1-4 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

Wu-Tang: Shaolin Style

Listen to the Wu-Tang gang droppin' science... while killing each other. Fine by us.

Kung fu film-sampling hip-hop maestros the Wu-Tang Clan are to star in their own hyper-violent martial arts kill 'em up. Playing as one of a range of cuddly Wu-sters including Ghostface Killa, Killah Priest and Ol' Dirty Bastard, players can either batter their way through armies of killer kung fu-ists in one-player, or take on each other in ten arenas ranging from ancient China to Staten Island, New York.

Enter the 36 chambers

As well as a full-on four-player battle mode where four blokes using a multitap can slug it out either in teams or one-on-one, there's a one-player quest mode where you travel through 36 chambers which match up

to the 36 death points on the human body, learning new moves as you go. And did we mention there's three exclusive Wu-Tang songs on the soundtrack? Did we? Huh?

RZA, the producer behind the Wu-Tang Clan says:
'This game is going to be off the hook.' Whatever that means.



■ All the core Clan members are in there, each boasting a range of signature moves



■ Use authentic weapons to hurt each other



■ Method Man knocks 'em dead with an acrobatic move



■ In one-player you've got to batter your way through the forces of an evil kung fu master



■ There's loads of martial arts styles on offer



■ Set up your own Wu-Tang dust-up with all your favourite blokes

■ OUT SEPTEMBER ■ BY INFOGRAPHICS ■ PLAYERS 1-4
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, MULTITAP

UEFA Striker

We're football crazy, we're football mad... You've gotta be for all these footy games.

European glory is the Holy Grail of football. Man United did it. Liverpool used to be able to do it but can't anymore. But now it's your chance to realise your club or national team's dream by taking them to the top. And, while it loads, you can play spot-the-ball at the same time. Wowsers.

Glory seeking

Check out the team line-up. There are a whopping 45 Euro club teams, plus another 51 national teams you can use in your quest to taste Euro success. They're not all available at the beginning though. Instead they're unlocked by winning tournaments and completing the training sessions. We think it's a cool idea, purely because there's a proper reason to use the training field - you learn some pretty cool secret plays AND get some nifty teams to play as. Sweet.

Option overload

UEFA has a decent selection of leagues and cup tournaments to compete in, for both club

and international teams - if you think you can get the England team to the European Championship, or Arsenal through to the Champions League final, go for it. The icing on the cake is the classic match mode, allowing you to take the reins in eight classic moments in football history. We like.

plus Has championship potential. There's loads of different options and a stack of neat new tricks. Review next month.



■ The replay system is sweet and easy to use



■ Awesome free kicks ahoy!



■ For harder shots hold down the shoot button

■ It's a goal! Time for an impromptu version of Knees up Mother Brown

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY TAKE 2 INTERACTIVE ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Grand Theft Auto 2

If you know your OG from your OJ, take a look at Grand Theft Auto 2. It's gang-bangin'!

Wanna earn a few quid? It's the usual stuff: repossessing cars, delivering pharmaceuticals, freeing peoples' wallets, population control. Oh yeah, you've also got to give the rozzers hell.

Makeover time

Despite the fact the original GTA offered more hours of gameplay than a session of spin-the-bottle with Jordan, the top-down graphics were ugly. The graphics style for GTA2 hasn't changed much but they're a lot more detailed, with class lighting effects and a more vibrant city to cause carnage in.

Why it rocks

The whole game has a lusher and more stylish feel. The weapons are improved, meaning more spectacular explosions, plus there are loads more vehicles, including ice cream vans and a hearse. The rozzers are

much brainier: they're always hot on your tail, and the poor saps you drive into fight back, so keep your pistol ready. The levels are proper 3D so you can lob grenades and bombs out of windows and off bridges. Cool.

Where it's at

The biggest difference is the setting. Instead of three separate cities there's one big, sprawling, stinking metropolis to plunder. And instead of working for yourself you side with one of seven gangs, including Russian Mafia, a group of Red Necks and a Krishna posse who're brainwashing their followers. Gain the respect of the mob bosses and the jobs start rolling in, to the point where you're even given henchmen to protect your ass!

plus It looks miles better than the original, and there's loads more to do. This will be a good 'un.



■ You can work for the Russian Mafia in GTA 2



■ Explosions look better. So does the lighting



■ Unlike the first game you can throw things off bridges. Bombs, people... anything you like



■ The Red Neck gang are a bunch of Nazis. They hate businesses, religion... everyone in fact



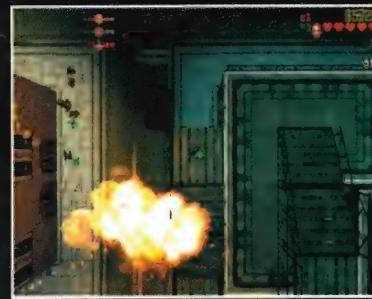
■ The cops don't take murder lightly



■ The streets have a darker, more sinister feel



■ There are better weapons, meaning more killing and huge mushroom clouds of explosive fun



■ There's FBI, SWAT and the military to deal with



■ Live fast, die young and, er, play GTA 2

■ OUT SEPTEMBER ■ BY PBH SYSTEMS ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, SPECIALIST CONTROLLER

PuchiCarat

Bounce a ball off a platform to destroy gems. All games should be this simple.

Do you remember Bust-a-Move? Well PuchiCarat's a bit like that. Basically there are a load of gems at the top of the screen which you must destroy by bouncing a ball from the block you control. It's essentially Breakout for the 90s and y'know what, it's totally addictive.

Puzzle time

Fun overload's the best way to describe the two-player mode, choosing one of twelve 'crazy' characters. When you've selected your warrior, get busting the gems to send 'em

over to their screen. Chuck enough over and eventually they'll crash and burn. Then again, it could be your ass that's crushed under a ton of gems.

plus *Mucho fun and dangerously addictive. Great for one or two players, but the price is going to be all-important. We reckon it shouldn't be more than £30.*



■ Lining up your platform is not so easy



■ When the gems hit the bottom it's curtains



■ The key is setting off chain reactions



■ There's always a busty wench to choose from



■ Simple fun is the order of the day, and judging by the mega-sales in Japan, it's a good formula

■ OUT NOVEMBER

■ BY ACTIVISION

■ PLAYERS 1-4

■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, LINK CABLE

quake II

Run down corridors blasting everything in your way. Fun has never been so messy.

Make no mistake, we're literally crossing off the days till Quake II is released on the PlayStation. We love high-speed shoot 'em ups and they don't come much better than the Quake series. It's the combination of awesome weapons, reflex-testing speed and all-out gore that gets us misty-eyed. You should be aroused too.

Lock 'n' load

For those not yet in the know, Quake is a hyper-sophisticated Doom style shoot 'em up. This means massive arenas with mad teleporters, sneakily hidden passages and rivers of molten lava. Now add wave upon wave of nasty-assed aliens to slay using rocket launchers, Gatling guns, super shotguns, grenade launchers and just about

everything else invented for cutting peoples' lives short. Fantastic stuff.

I'll be back

It's the multi-player deathmatch mode we hanker after. Imagine you and three mates swapping personalities with the Terminator and stopping at nothing to be the king of the deathmatch. Imagine offing someone with a rocket from point-blank range - it's a great feeling, especially when it's your best mate on the receiving end. Sucker.

 Could this be the multi-player monster to beat all others? We hope so.



■ The rapid-firing Hyperblaster will tear through the enemies' weak asses



■ You and a mate. Who's gonna be left standing?



■ The levels are absolutely huge. Getting lost is all part of the fun



■ Time to leg it, yeah?



■ The machine gun is puny, unlike this alien



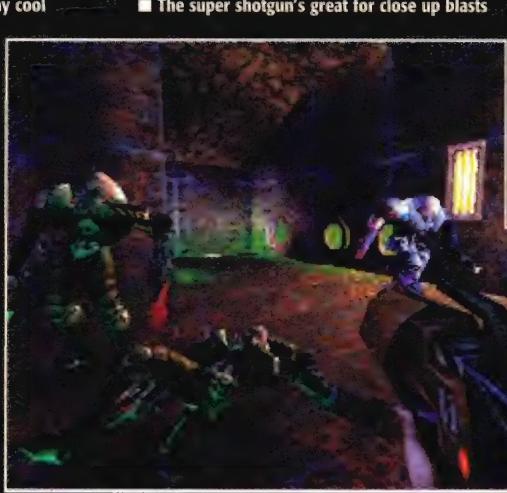
■ The levels and bad guys look way cool



■ The super shotgun's great for close up blasts



■ It's a non-stop blastathon. Get the plasters in early, your fingers are gonna bleed



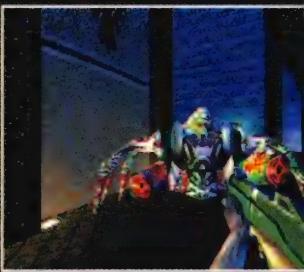
■ You'll need to keep your eyes peeled for health packs. These gringos pack a punch



■ The grenade launcher makes a cool sound when fired



■ The aliens come in all shapes and sizes



■ Anything this ugly deserves to die



And on you go

VITAMINS A-B₁&C
ENRICHED BEVERAGE

Sunny
Delight
reach for the sun

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY SONY ■ PLAYERS 1-4 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

This is Football

Crunching tackles, sweet passes, thundering shots. This one's going straight for goal

Two teams, 22 players and a ball. All footy games are identical bar three things: the teams on offer, the way they look and how well they play. So This is Football. It's jammed with teams from over 20 different leagues, there are over 5,000 players in the game and the graphics... well, look at it. Coolio, huh?

Why it's gonna rock

Sweet gameplay is top of our footy game hit list. It's why we prefer ISS 98 over FIFA. The guys who created This is Football looked at the other games on the 'Station, took the best bits from each and came up with this baby. It's therefore easy to pick up, but more importantly it's crammed with cool moves and tricks so the veteran player can flex their game muscle against some poor sap who's just started playing.

Better looking than Beckham

And like we said before, it looks very nice: very sharp, extremely detailed and smoother than an Italian gigolo. The replays are particularly fine, and best of all you can save 'em to memory card. Sweet, huh?

WTF We reckon this could be the best footy game on the 'Station. No, really.



■ The easiest spot-the-ball competition ever



■ There are loads of different shots to choose from. We favour 'as hard as possible'



■ The players look really neat and move so, so sweetly



■ Player detail's cranked to the max



■ The stadiums look lush



■ The stadiums looks absolutely smart. No wonder the players are celebrating



■ Clive Tyldesley provides the commentary for the game



■ Extreme product placement



■ The player detail is impressive. You can almost see the sweat



■ Get big laughs by sticking Super Glue to the players' boots



■ It's got the new strips



■ Goal mouth action galore

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■ OUT SEPTEMBER ■ BY INFOGRAMS ■ PLAYERS 1 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Mission: Impossible

Tom Cruise blockbuster hits 'Station two years late

More pics of the 3D adventure of Mission: Impossible have cropped up, and the good news is it's looking a whole lot better than it was a few months back. The graphics have been given a bit of a nip and tuck and we're promised razor-sharp gameplay as well.

The places

What's cool about Mission: Impossible is the action's mega-varied. You'll cruise through suave dinner parties, then try to balance yourself while hanging on a rope amongst a web of laser beams. You'll find yourself talking to folks in Prague apartments, then sneaking through military installations. Very spy. And very much like the film.

The guns

Just like in the film, Ethan's going to be toolled with millions of disguises, plus there's enough guns and killing gizmos to keep the most psychopathic gamer happy. Sounds like a laugh. Let's hope so.

plus The N64 version
was well ropey
but it looks
like they're
ironing out
the flaws
before it
touches
down
Sonyside.



■ Ethan gets suited up for the Arctic



■ Make an escape



■ Take out baddies. Don't hit civilians



■ Take on huge military bases on your own



■ Stay in radio contact with your homeboys



■ First-person sniper mode. Cool as



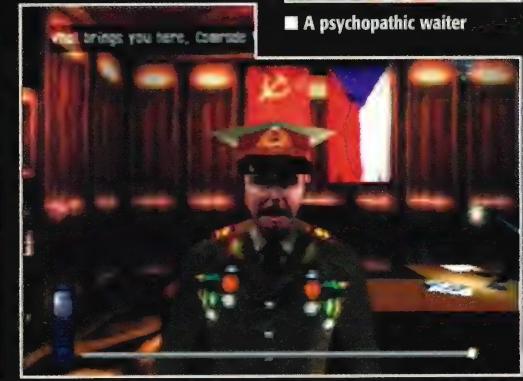
■ Once inside the complex, Ethan goes it alone



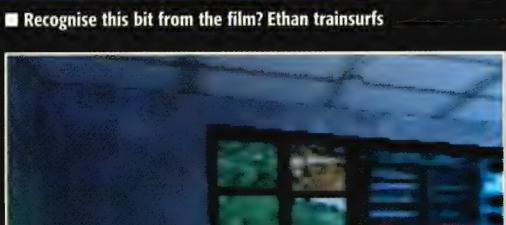
■ Take out bad guys from a safe distance, spy-style



■ A man of many disguises



■ A psychopathic waiter



■ Watch a man in a suit have a tinkle on the old Joanna

■ There's loads of cool cutscenes with commie dogs like this fella



■ Sneak into the complex to insert a virus into the baddies' computer

■ Invisible head mode on

■ Scope out the locations from a distance in first-person mode

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY THQ ■ PLAYERS 1-8
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

Shao Lin

Furious fisticuffs as Chinese hardnuts take to the ring for a bit of eight-on-one

The finest moments in martial arts flicks are when Bruce/Jackie soars into the air for a graceful spin that fells seven or eight oriental bruisers at once. And up till now, 'Station takes on the whole martial arts thing have been sadly lacking in that kind of action. That's all gonna change when Shao Lin hits, 'cos it's the first beat 'em up to allow eight fighters on screen at once. Neat.

Number one super guy

There's six authentic martial arts styles on offer and you can play it either as an arcade style beat 'em up, with up to four players, or



■ Travel across China learning new moves



■ When you start off in the one-player mode you're just a kid. As you learn, you grow



■ The plot's fairly surreal, as you expect with this kind of oriental nonsense

as a one-player quest, where you travel across ancient China rucking with huge groups of people and learning new kung fu skills. From what we've seen, it's fast and furious stuff, and the way you can switch between opponents makes the eight player brawls well hectic.

plus A fine idea. Graphics aren't drop-dead gorgeous but gameplay's fast.



■ The doctors assured her the lip reconstruction had been at least partially successful



■ All the special moves are fairly straight-up chopsocky: no fireballs here

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY ELECTRONIC ARTS ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Xena: Warrior Princess

Yiaaaaaaaaagh! Whip out your sword and protect your genitals 'cos Xena's a-comin'!

You thought the big-chested TV tough girl wouldn't get more mainstream than Channel 5? Think again, because Xena hacking it up on a 'Station real soon. And just like the TV show, the sword-swinging siren walks fearlessly through a world of minotaurs, ogres and cyclops.

Shemale

Xena: Warrior Princess is an ass-kickin' action game that keeps it simple. Set over seven worlds, divided further into 21 scenes, the leather-clad maiden kicks the crap out of anything that gets in her way. Luckily Xena's toolled up with enough sharpened metal to keep Gillette in business for the next decade; she can also chuck a killer frisbee and do megadeath magic. Wizard... maybe.

Fighting and puzzles!

It's not all brawling though - there's puzzle-type stuff to tuck into plus a load of regulars from the TV show who help out along the way.

plus It doesn't look anything special, but if the control system is tightened up then it could be a lot more enjoyable.



■ Xena isn't afraid of a threesome



■ These guys are pirates, hence the crap tattoos



■ Never, EVER light a match near Xena's backside



■ Top heavy? You betcha!



■ The graphics are only OK



■ This is one hot chick who can handle a weapon more skilfully than a man

■ OUT SEPTEMBER ■ BY KONAMI ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Metal Gear Solid: VR Missions

Snake Solid rides again... virtually

Another Metal Gear? So soon? Well, not exactly. See, this is a sort of add-on pack/collector's edition for those who've got the original game. There's 300 extra virtual reality training missions on here, plus a weirdo murder-mystery subgame starring Snake as a private eye. What's cool is you only pay £20.

Metal up your ass

The VR missions are pretty much like the ones in the original game, but you can set the enemies, the weapons, and you also get the chance to play other characters like the ninja Gray Fox in pursuit of Solid Snake. And if that isn't enough to whet your appetite, we're promised the intro to the game will be done using PlayStation 2: this'll be your first chance to see what this awesome hardware can do! How cool is that?

Plus At £40, this'd be a rip. At £20, it's maybe worth a look.

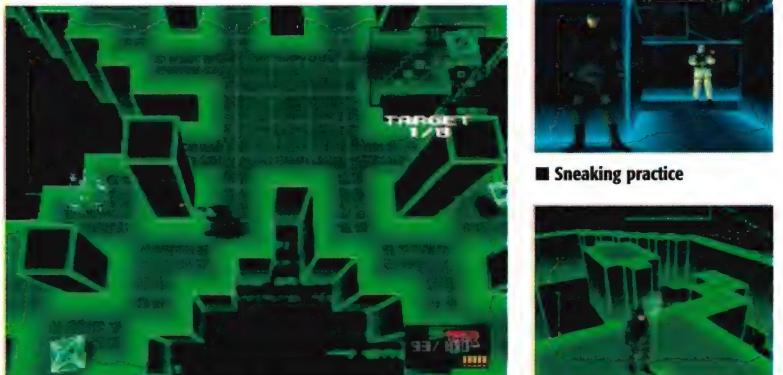


■ Use Stinger missiles to take out distant targets



■ Target practice using the FA-MAS assault rifle

■ Murder mystery mode. So who's the killer?



■ Sneaking practice



■ Use fags to detect lasers



■ See the sword's red tip? That's Xena taking damage from the bastid pirate



■ The combat system is very primitive



■ There are health potions all over the levels



■ The daggers represent enemies' energy bars



■ The Chakram frisbee-thing is particularly cool



■ For this mission she's got to save the hostages - not easy when there's this many bad guys around

■ OUT SEPTEMBER ■ BY CODEMASTERS ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

LMA Manager

If staring at a screen full of football stats gets you going, check out this beauty.

Your local game shop's crammed with footy manager games because there's stacks of 'em doing the rounds. LMA Manager's different from most of the others, for two reasons: it's the only game endorsed by the League Manager's Association, and it's one of the few which are any good.

Fahsands of facts, guy

You want up-to-date info on all the players and teams, and want to be able to access the info quickly? You got it. Y'see, LMA Manager does everything you'll want from a 'Station footy management game, offering the top four divisions in England and the chance for Euro glory, but also looks very sweet.

Unique selling point alert

The point of footy management games isn't the watching of the game, but your skill in preparing for the game. But you know this already. However, unlike in other management games the watch game option is really quite good, showing all the juicy bits of the match. We also like the option to take over a team on the brink of relegation or promotion, using your skills to take your team to the top. So c'mon, Blackburn fans, now's your chance for Premiership revenge.

plus It's by the same people as Colin McRae Rally, so there's a good chance it's gonna be a corker.



■ There's a Match of the Day-style TV show



■ Where was the defence? All at sea, that's what



■ The watch game option is neat



■ 'Do I not like that'. Expect high stress levels



■ You won't miss the goals or the action because there's running commentary throughout

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY ACTIVISION ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Tony Hawk's Skateboarding

Jaw-dropping stunts and aerial trickery in the skating game that has it all.

This is looking nothing short of stunning. There're literally hundreds of stunts to get to grips with, a super-complex combo system where you can kick, flip, jump and railslide to rack up massive scores, and a range of lush outdoor locations with loads of secret areas and do-or-die über-stunts to test out your skills. Class.

Skate or die!

The game's endorsed by nine of the world's top skaters. Ignoring the fact that most skaters would sign their names on anything in exchange for a slice of pizza and two drags

on a joint, what this means is that there's loads of really distinct skating styles to learn, and loads of special individual tricks and moves to perfect for each of the nine. Looking hot to trot.

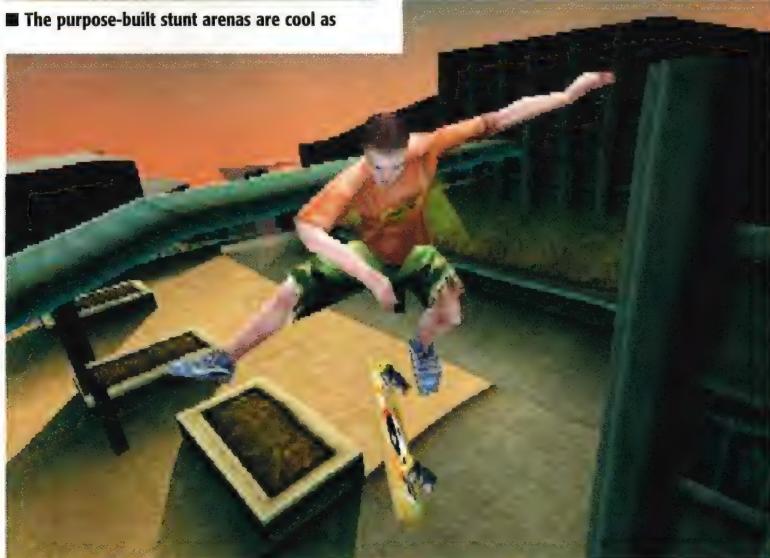
plus Station skating efforts haven't exactly set the world on fire up till now, but this looks like a real scorcher.



■ With practice, you can do amazing tricks



■ The purpose-built stunt arenas are cool as



■ Doing really big stunts can take you into secret areas and score you big points



■ Each of the skaters has their own signature style and a few extra-special tricks they can do



■ Tony himself specialises in highly acrobatic aerial trickery. Pure class

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Argos

War of the Worlds

The aliens are coming, 1890s-style. Tally-ho, chaps!



■ The whole thing's set in 19th century England. Makes a change



■ Cool video bits show the relentless onslaught of the aliens



■ Armoured car. Nippy, but loaded



■ You can switch into different vehicles to get more firepower, or to deliver stuff around the place

Now this is a pretty damn odd idea for a game: it's a 'Station outing for the ages-old film War of the Worlds, which was all tinpot flying saucers and men with twirly moustaches keeping a stiff upper lip in the face of the alien menace. Here, it's a sort of mission-based driving and shooting effort, with loads of toolled up tanks fighting against the laser-zapping Martians.

The evil alien hordes

Each level's divided into mission objectives, but what it boils down to is a high-octane drive-and-shoot 'em up where you can armoured cars through tasty-looking English locations with the bug-eyed types dropping high-tech death at you. Rescue people,

deliver stuff, kill aliens and drive at stupidly high speeds all the time. Simple, yet effective.

■ Looking like it offers a whole bundle of laughs: more news as we get it.



■ Your job's to defend the villagers



■ You can switch into different vehicles to get more firepower, or to deliver stuff around the place

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY MINDSCAPE ■ PLAYERS 1-4
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

Rat Attack

Arcade stupidity Tom and Jerry style

For those who like their gameplay fast and dumb, we present this high-octane arcade cute 'em up. Playing as one of eight rat-catching super-cats, you defend the furniture from wave after wave of merciless rodents. And all you've got is a weird electric lasso. Good luck!

How you do it

It's simplicity itself. What you do is hold X to draw a loop on the floor, computer mouse-style. Any rats in the so-called 'Eraticator' vanish, and by standing on the Destructor, you can

send them to hell. There's weird power-ups and strange über-rats to contend with, and loads of odd obstacles like flamethrowing ovens to avoid as you catch your quota. It's plenty fun in one-player, but the action really kicks off when you get a multitap in for a frenzied four-player rat race where the man who catches the most rodents wins.

plus *Like Rentokil on acid. Graphically it's not going to make your 'Station pour steam from under the bonnet, but gameplay-wise this looks like it's firing on all cylinders.*



■ Catch rats in your electric net



■ Walk over the Destructor to destroy 'em



■ Shoot the tripods in the head to kill 'em

■ The rats gnaw at the furniture. Once it's all gone, it's goodnight from you



■ You have to deal with other hazards like dogs



■ If a rat walks into the Duplicator, two appear

■ Save the church from the three-legged threat

■ The Martians pack serious heat

■ OUT SEPTEMBER ■ BY SONY ■ PLAYERS 1-2 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, LINK CABLE

Formula 199

Breakneck speeds, glamour girls and noise so loud your ears'll bleed. Nice

Tons of people were bitterly disappointed with last year's Formula One effort. No surprise really, because it was toss. Luckily the geezers responsible have been knee-capped and a new team drafted in to create this all-new tyre-burner. And y'know what, it's looking mighty tasty.

Back to its best?

First thing you'll notice are the graphics: F1 99 looks much better than the last one. It's sharper, there's more detail and it moves smoothly. Effects like different weather conditions and smoke from tyres is pretty standard stuff for most racers but it helps make Formula 1 99 look and feel like a realistic sim of the real thing. Naturally all the proper drivers are signed to their respective

teams, and the correct sponsors are plastered all over the motors. Good.

Updated

The biggest worry for us is the tracks. Obviously the proper circuits have been painstakingly recreated so they're pretty much identical to the real thing, but then it's the same old Monaco and Monza as before. Still, if you love F1, you'll probably love this.

plus Looks a lot better than F1 98 and we think it handles pretty well too. More info and a proper playtest next month.



■ The cars' handling has been much improved



■ There's loads of different weather conditions to master



■ The level of detail has been upped since last years dismal effort



■ You can read the sponsors' names



■ F1 cars don't race at night, except here



■ F1 99 plays much better than the 98 version



■ Get your cornering wrong and you'll smoke up your tyres



■ The attention to detail's so sharp you can even tell what type of tyres are fitted - treads or slicks



■ Like in real F1, you've got to be mega-careful in the wet. One false move and you're out



■ Overtaking is a case of bidding your time, then flooring it when you see a gap



■ The detail's glorious. Check the reflection of the exhaust flash on the wet tarmac

Jade Cocoon

Shag, monsters, shag! Now get out and save the world

Out in the UK in October, this role-playing effort comes with weirdo Japanenglish dialogue, odd plotlines and a mondo complexico monster-breeding system.

You've got to capture monsters, get them breeding, and then take 'em out to fight, breed more and save the world. What's cool is the variety of monsters, the razor-sharp graphics and the deep gameplay that'll stop you seeing mates for days.



■ The spell effects look absolutely stunning



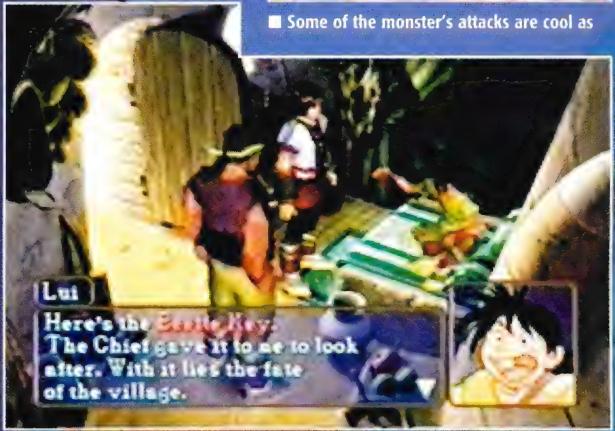
■ The game world is huge!



■ The fights are standard role-playing stuff



■ Some of the monster's attacks are cool as



■ There are many weirdo characters here and mucho talking to be done

MICRO MACHINES IS BACK!

■ 'Eagerly awaited' doesn't even begin to describe the follow-up to Micro Machines V3, the multiplayer mini-racer where you tank tiny cars round a range of stoopid indoor settings. We've heard whispers about the upcoming MM4, and you're not going to be racing in cars this time - strange two-footed creatures called Little Bastards have been mentioned, but nothing's confirmed. If it's close to V3 then this is a stunner-in-waiting.

SOMETHING SMELLS FISHY

Bait yer hook and head for the canal for adrenalin thrills

■ Fishing games. Not everybody's Thermos of tea, but they can be a reet laff nonetheless. Reel Fishing looks like it captures the strangely relaxing atmos of the real thing, with a big range of fish to get to grips with, and every bit of squirming bait and fishing kit that a Barbour-jacket-wearing grandpa could want. This could be a worthy rival to Fisherman's Bait, reviewed on p78. The graphics are pretty sharp, and we're promised classy gameplay as well. It's not your Tekken 3 or Metal Gear but it'll be a laugh.



■ A fish that can fit even the largest tack in its gob



■ Cool-looking locations



■ Loads of differ fish

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Killer Loop

Will this new sci-fi racer wipe out the daddy of 'em all this autumn?

Killer Loop boasts stripped-down pods throttling around sci-fi tracks that snake through mountains, all at brain-melting speed. Do the words 'Wipe' and 'Out' ring any bells? This is a tie-in with folks who make the ultra-trendy Killer Loop sunglasses. From its look, this is a pretty mean videogame. Its release is likely to be around the same time as the Wip3out out in September. It had better measure up then.



■ The visuals are ultra-sharp on this 'un



■ The tracks are mad, winding and hardcore

Roadsters

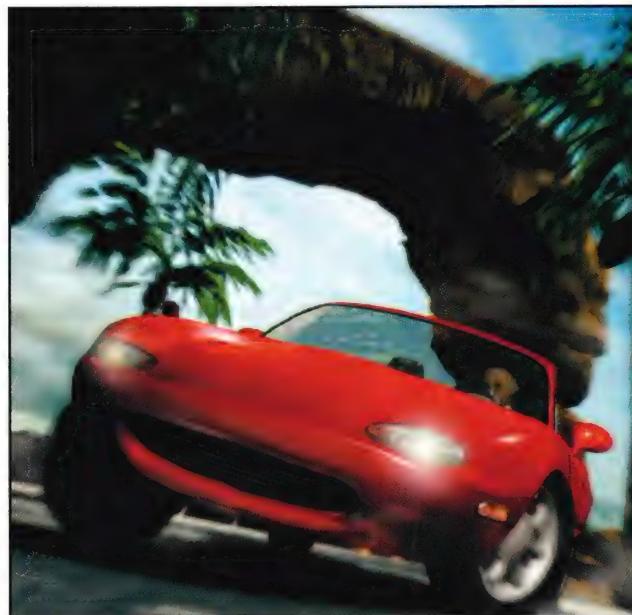
A slick road racer with a side-order of gambling.

Roadsters is a racer with a twist. Two players take the supercar of their choice and race it arcade-style around twisty road race courses at stupidly high speeds. Fun, but nothing new. What's cool is there's a betting

system in here, and getting the money to get ahead's all down to you measuring up the odds and having a flutter on race results. You can even throw races just to get more of the folding green stuff. Most intriguing.



■ Choose from a range of snazzy sports cars



■ Put a bet on who'll win before you head out onto the track



■ Snow courses'll test the handling of your car

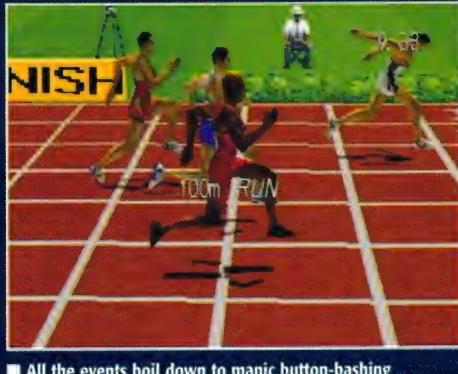
TRACK & FIELD 2

■ **Yup, it's the return of the tap-tap-tapping sports game where the man with the toughest thumbs wins. You and up to three mates can compete at a range of Olympic sports events which all boil down to how fast you can hit the buttons on your joypad.**

There are 10 all-new events for the sequel including weight lifting, canoeing and bike riding, and the whole thing's looking and moving a lot sharper than the ages-old original. Old or not, the original's still one of the best multiplayer party games available on the Station, so we've got high hopes for this fella.



■ The graphics are loads sharper for this sequel



■ All the events boil down to manic button-bashing

Colin McRae Rally 2

These are the first shots you'll see of the sequel to the rally race king.

Colin McRae is heading back to the 'Station. We've got exclusive early shots of Colin McRae Rally 2, the follow up to the mega-smash Colin McRae Rally. It's due out next year and it's promising to eclipse everything the first one did, and add a few neat new twists besides.

The makers have worked with the original Colin McRae Rally team and the super-Scot himself and given the graphics a big overhaul. There's a nip 'n' tuck for the cars, making them sharper and smoother looking. And obviously Colin's new motor is the Ford Focus instead of the Subaru. The track scenery has been completely redesigned and there's new ways to race.



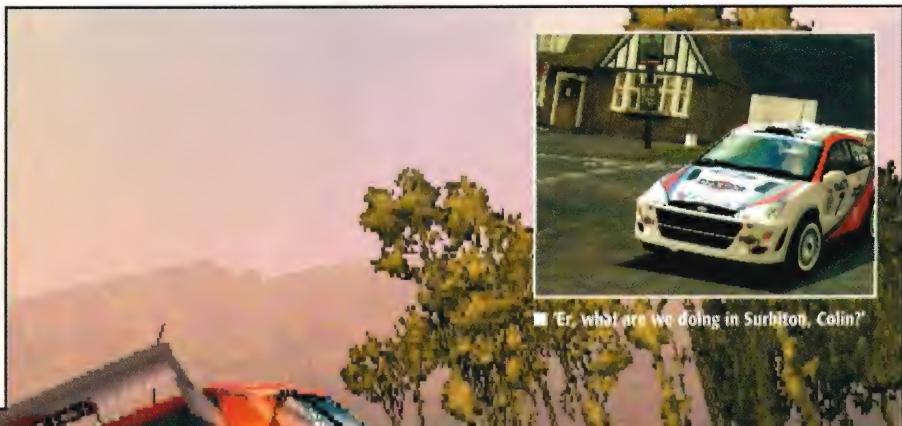
■ See ya Subaru! McRae's Ford Focus is the new dirt-drenching daddy

■ High-detail scenery has been added to boost authenticity

■ All motors have been given a graphics refit



■ Rainy, overcast, granite walls and greasy grass. Must be Scotland



■ Er, what are we doing in Surbiton, Colin?



■ The new sharp look transforms the race environments



■ Tyre, tyre fer now! McRae 2 is probably the last on the current PlayStation, so it pushes its performance to the limits

The Works: Dino Crisis: Final

CHEWYON

You're about to be
house. What do you do?

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY VIRGIN ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1

■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

You thought this recon mission to some remote island was gonna be a walk in the park - just a couple of scientist saps who overloaded the power generator and didn't know how to replace the fuse. But there's something wrong. The local wildlife's a little bit *too* exotic. When your team touches down to find the only remains of the colonists are chewed-up bloody chunks, your pulse skyrockets and your trigger finger starts to itch...



■ 'My, what big teeth you have!' The awesome T-Rex crashes the party



■ Jurassic Park-style raptors are hot on your tail. Turn and blast 'em!



■ A dino feels the awesome stopping power of 20th century assault weaponry

THIS!

be bitten in half by a lizard as big as a
Pump that sucker fulla lead, stupid!

»

The Works: Dino Crisis: First lowdown

What we like

Relentless dino action

You reckon you can't get enough of a good thing? Well by the time you've finished with this lizard onslaught you'll be gagging for the blood spilling to end! These muthas never give up, even after a couple of shotgun blasts to the face.



■ The dinosaurs just keep a-comin'



■ And a-comin, and a-com... you get the idea

Resident dino

Dino Crisis plays exactly like Resident Evil. Hardly surprising though, because it's done by the same blokes. All the joypad buttons do the same things as in Res Evil, so if you're a fan you'll pick it up dead easily. The big difference, and we mean BIG, is that some of the bad guys you'll come up against are the size of a house. And if that's not enough, ammo's always in short supply and there's only three of you versus an entire army of dinos. Bugger.



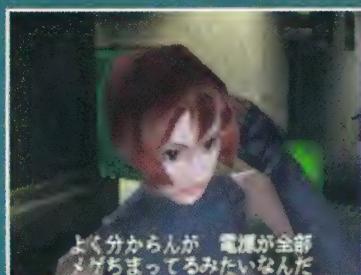
■ What do you do now? Panic!



■ Eat grenade, lizard breath



■ Extra-rare scientist. A juicy meaty treat



■ Regina's the red-haired cutie you play throughout the game



■ Rick's a computer wizard, but not so handy when it comes to handling dinos



■ Meathead Gale does his thinking with his automatic weapon. Don't mess with him



■ Doctor Kirk's the bloke who brought all the dinosaurs back. Scheming git



■ When the screen flashes 'Danger', hammer the buttons to save Regina from certain death



■ At key points in the game you get to decide whether to go gung-ho or tackle the puzzles

THINGS TO MAKE YOU GO AARRRRGGGGHHHHHHH!!!!

DINO CRISIS IS CRAMMED with shit-scary moments which'll make you jump out of your skin. One minute all is quiet, the next a massive T-Rex has smashed through a window and is chewing off your legs! And that's only the beginning...

Tyrannosaurus attack

■ A mammoth meat-eater's looking for lunch: you're it



■ No matter how fast you run you ain't getting away...

'It's crammed with shit-scary moments'

Lizard kings

Dinosaurs. They're just big lizards, right? Sort of. Y'see, these oversized reptiles don't just sit in the sun, catching insects with their tongues. Nope, these monsters can slice 'n' dice through your intestines in a matter of seconds, unless you know how to deal with 'em. Luckily, we're your handy pocket guide to ditching them dinos...

BIG BASTARDOSAURUS

We dunno what they're called but they're very, very tough and have a taste for human ass. Time to make an escape, we reckon...

RUN AWAY..!

Unless you toolled up with the grenade launcher and a load of shells. Even then you've better make sure those Band Aids are nearby

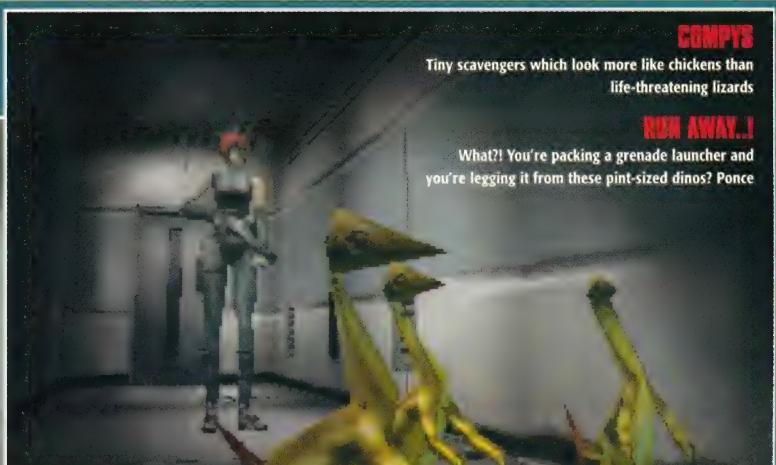


RAPTORS

Six-foot meat eaters which attack in packs

RUN AWAY..!

When they jump in the air, splitting open your guts with six-inch claws and chewing your face off

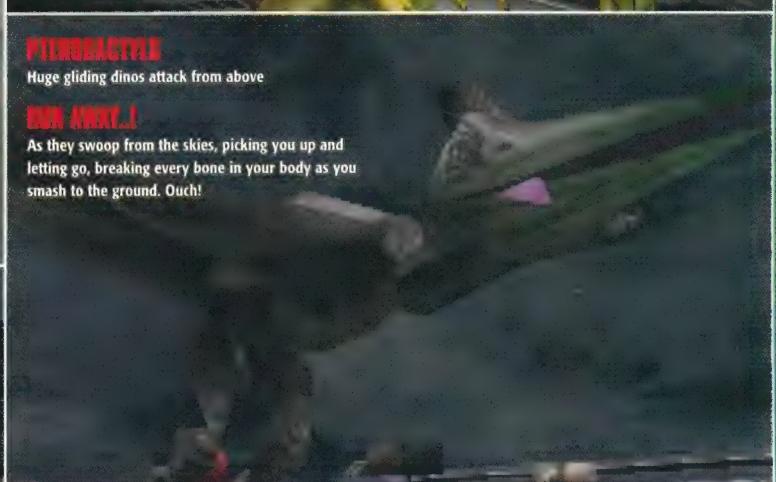


PTERODACTYL

Huge gliding dinos attack from above

RUN AWAY..!

As they swoop from the skies, picking you up and letting go, breaking every bone in your body as you smash to the ground. Ouch!

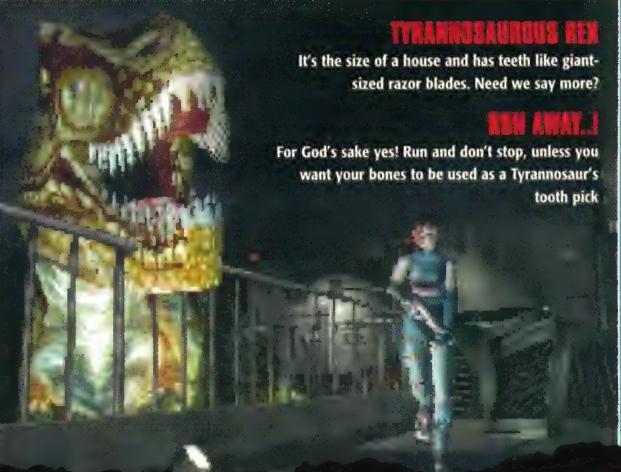


TYRANOSAURUS REX

It's the size of a house and has teeth like giant-sized razor blades. Need we say more?

RUN AWAY..!

For God's sake yes! Run and don't stop, unless you want your bones to be used as a Tyrannosaurus's tooth pick



Your cruddy shotgun barely dents this beast's thick hide



It's coming in for the kill... lob a grenade in its gob!



In it goes! Mr T-Rex is in for a bad case of heartburn...

The Works: Dino Crisis: First lowdown

All new look

You know how the backgrounds in Resident Evil are always static pictures that don't move? Sure, they look great, but sometimes it gets a bit boring. Dino Crisis spices it up by using moving camera angles which close in on the action and follow Regina around. It makes the awesome T-Rex attack look a lot more exciting - you'll freak as the giant lizard charges after you, lunging forward to bite your puny body in half unless you manage to leap out of the jaws of death. Literally.



■ The static backgrounds are VERY Resident Evil



■ Some of the screens move around, making stuff more exciting



■ The characters look similar to those in Res Evil 2 - a bit blocky but still kinda cool

It's like watching Jurassic Park

There are some really cool video sequences in Dino Crisis which introduce the story and bring other bits of the game to life. The dinos look as good as those in Jurassic Park, especially the bits when the T-Rex chomps some poor sap in two. Cool!



■ Regina's escaped from the raptors



■ The T-Rex bites down on the rescue chopper



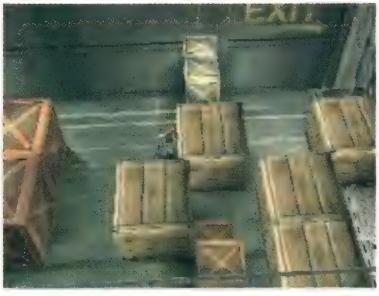
■ With nowhere left to run, Regina's got to deal with the lizard king

Brains over brawn

Dino Crisis is an even mix of puzzles and ass-cappin'. When you first land on the island you're only packing a pistol. By tucking into some serious brain-bustin' puzzles you'll zip through the game and move onto bigger, badder boomsticks.



■ You must use heavy duty gear like the pipes to solve some of the puzzles



■ Pushing blocks to clear a path is simple stuff

THINGS TO MAKE YOU GO AARRRRGGGGHHHHHHH!!! (CONTINUED)

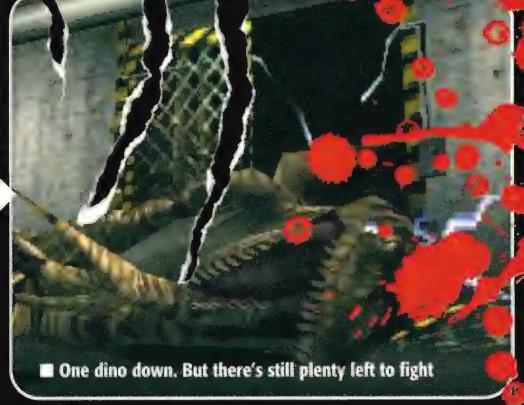
Raptor's revenge



■ Without warning, a huge raptor pounces on Regina



■ With a swift kick she launches it onto an electric fence



■ One dino down. But there's still plenty left to fight

'The T-Rex battles are stunning'

The same, but different

Dino Crisis is bloody similar to the Res Evil games. But there's a couple of differences. There are set save rooms so you can only log your progress when you leave one of these areas. And there's no storage chests: you stash your gear in wall-mounted safes.



■ Save rooms are dotted around the place



■ Wall-mounted safes allow you to store stuff



■ If the going gets tough, go back and save

Neat an' sweet

There are loads of neat touches in Dino Crisis. Take Regina: after a couple of nasty fights she'll start to lose blood and stagger. Regina can escape from gaping jaws by nipping into the ventilation shafts and scurrying through to another room. Cool.



■ Regina's breath fogs when it's cold. Nice



■ Regina's losing blood and limping



■ Can't get through a locked door? Then use the ventilation shafts instead



■ It's behind you! A classic horror film moment

plus

We'd like to say...

We've played the Jap version right through to the end and we'll tell you right now, it's awesome. It's VERY similar to the Resident Evil games so if you're into them you'll fancy a bit of this. The T-Rex battles are stunning, not only to look at but also because they'll really shit you up. Y'see, this is one of the few games that actually makes you jump. When you've got a three-storey lizard with teeth like kitchen knives pounding after you, it's hardly surprising.

Pterotactyl terror



■ A pterodactyl swoops in with its huge claws outstretched



■ The oversized dodo swoops down and picks our heroine



■ Wriggle free, or it drops you into the fan to be munched

WIN FREEZE NOW

**MAKE YOURS THE HOTTEST SUMMER EVER BY
WINNING A LOAD OF THIS SUPER-COOL GEAR**

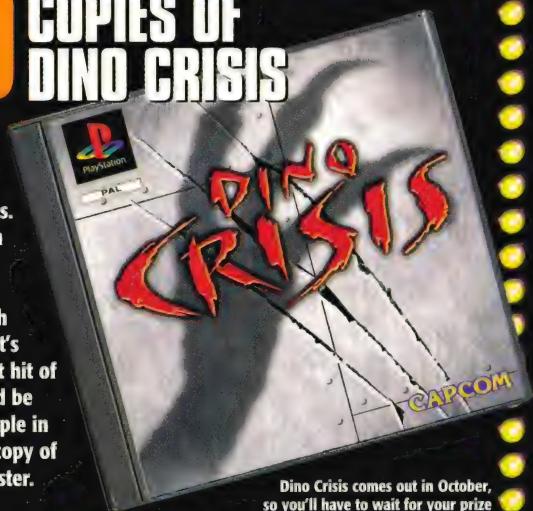
You're vegging out in the park, catching rays, with a can of beer by your side.

What could make life better? How'sabout this little lot of easy-to-win goodies?

Turn over, complete the peasy question for the prize you want, cut it out, post it in and be lucky. You can send in for as many prizes as you want, so get to it!

20 COPIES OF DINO CRISIS

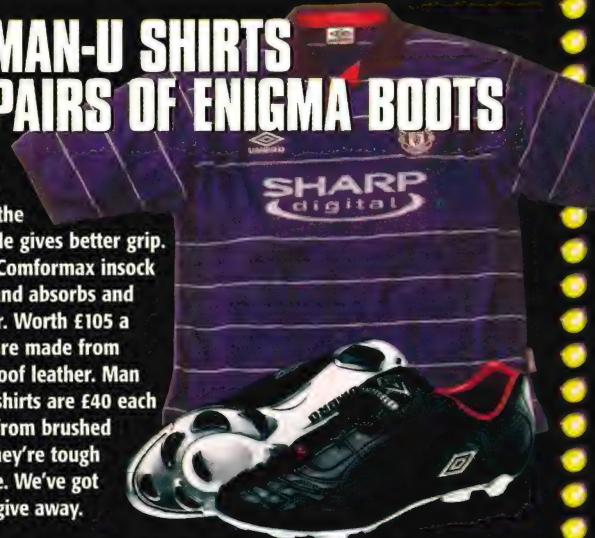
Think Resident Evil with dinosaurs and you're close to the brilliance of Dino Crisis. You get toolled up with an armoury to shame NATO and take on an entire island filled with huge, hungry lizards. It's going to be the biggest hit of the year and you could be one of the first 20 people in the country to own a copy of this awesome blockbuster.



Dino Crisis comes out in October, so you'll have to wait for your prize

5 MAN-U SHIRTS PAIRS OF ENIGMA BOOTS

Owen uses the Umbro Enigma boots because the Spin R-G outsole gives better grip. The two-layer Conformax insole grips the foot and absorbs and disperses water. Worth £105 a pair, Enigmas are made from tough, waterproof leather. Man U's new away shirts are £40 each and are made from brushed polyester, so they're tough but comfortable. We've got five of each to give away.



5 FUJIFILM INSTAX MINI CAMERAS

This is the summer's coolest bit of kit and we've five of these £65 cameras to give away. Fujifilm's Instax camera prints credit-card sized pics seconds after you've taken them. The best thing is the camera's size - it's tiny compared to normal instant cameras, coming in at just 113 x 119 x 58 mm. It boasts a fully retractable lens and twin shutter buttons to take pictures horizontally or vertically. Enter over the page.



3 ZAP PAGERS

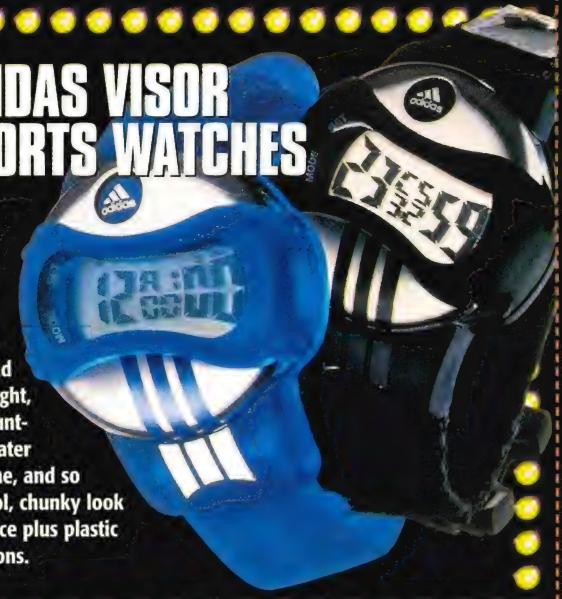
These are cool as, especially as the footy season's just started. The £49.99 Zap is a pager run over the Vodafone network and comes bundled with the free Sports Channel service with Premiership results, plus lottery draw numbers. It even receives messages direct from PCs.

This little baby holds up to 20 messages and there's no contract or monthly bills. Calls to Zap cost up to 49p. Turn the page to win.



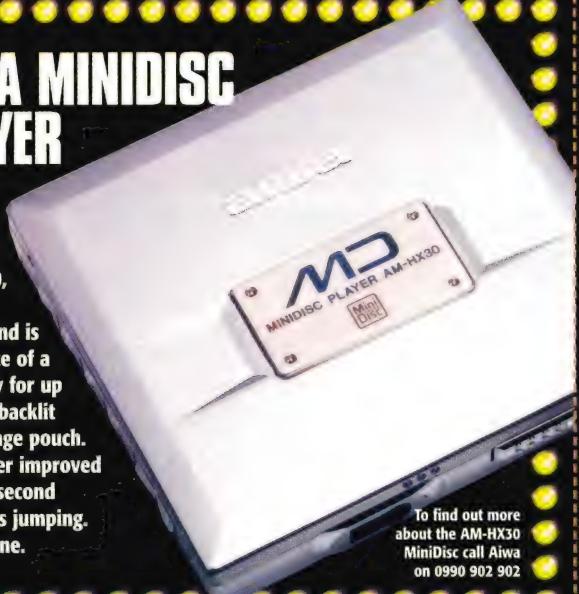
5 ADIDAS VISOR SPORTS WATCHES

Adidas has created these new £45 Visor watches for anyone into extreme sports. They're crammed with functions: 9 lap memory, 1/100 second chronograph, night light, two daily alarms, countdown timer, 100m water resistance, hour chime, and so on. They've got a cool, chunky look and a goggle-style face plus plastic and fabric strap options.



1 AIWA MINIDISC PLAYER

Aiwa's ultra-slim AM-HX30 MiniDisc player is worth around £150, weighs less than a quarter-pounder and is about twice the size of a matchbox. It'll play for up to 21 hours, has a backlit remote and a storage pouch. The earphones offer improved bass while the 40-second anti-shock prevents jumping. Turn over to win one.



To find out more about the AM-HX30 MiniDisc call Aiwa on 0990 902 902

ZAP PAGERS

Q: ON WHICH NETWORK DO ZAP PAGERS RUN?

A:

NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____
AGE: _____	TELEPHONE: _____

Mark your entry 'Zap Pager Summer Blag', and send it to PlayStation Plus, Angel House, 338-346 Goswell Road, London EC1V 7QP no later than September 24th.

COPIES OF DINO CRISIS

Q: IS A BRONTOSAURUS A MEAT EATER OR VEGETARIAN?

A:

NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____
AGE: _____	TELEPHONE: _____

Mark your entry 'Dino Crisis Summer Blag', and send it to PlayStation Plus, Angel House, 338-346 Goswell Road, London EC1V 7QP no later than September 24th.

ADIDAS SPORTS WATCHES

Q: WHAT DEPTH OF WATER RESISTANCE DOES THE VISOR WATCH HAVE?

A:

NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____
AGE: _____	TELEPHONE: _____

Mark your entry 'Adidas Watch Summer Blag', and send it to PlayStation Plus, Angel House, 338-346 Goswell Road, London EC1V 7QP no later than September 24th.

MAN U SHIRTS ENIGMA BOOTS

Q: WHICH FAMOUS PLAYER WEARS UMBRO ENIGMA BOOTS?

A:

NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____
AGE: _____	TELEPHONE: _____

Mark your entry 'Umbro Boots Summer Blag', and send it to PlayStation Plus, Angel House, 338-346 Goswell Road, London EC1V 7QP no later than September 24th.

AIWA MINIDISC PLAYER

Q: AIWA'S NEW MINIDISC OFFERS HOW MANY SECONDS OF ANTISHOCK?

A:

NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____
AGE: _____	TELEPHONE: _____

Mark your entry 'Aiwa MiniDisc Summer Blag', and send it to PlayStation Plus, Angel House, 338-346 Goswell Road, London EC1V 7QP no later than September 24th.

FUJIFILM CAMERAS

Q: WHAT SIZE ARE THE PICTURES THE INSTAX MINI TAKES?

A:

NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____
AGE: _____	TELEPHONE: _____

Mark your entry 'FujiFilm camera Summer Blag', and send it to PlayStation Plus, Angel House, 338-346 Goswell Road, London EC1V 7QP no later than September 24th.

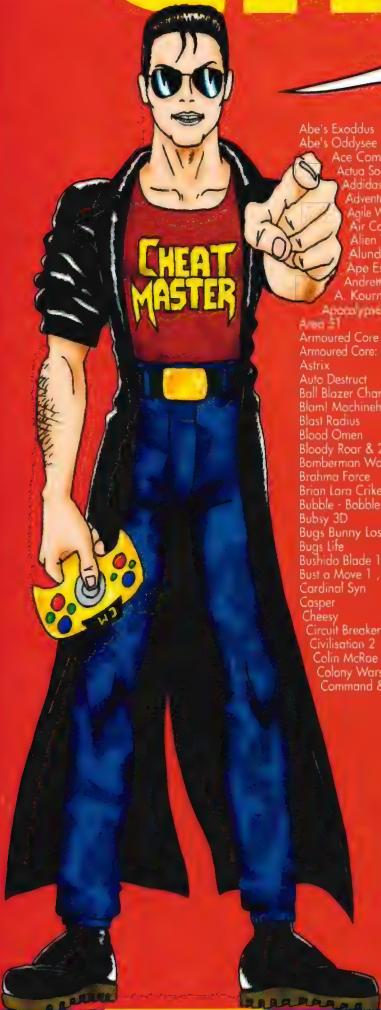
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PLAYSTATION CHEATS & TIPS



HI I'M THE CHEAT MASTER, IF YOU'RE STUCK AND FRUSTRATED THEN CALL ME. I'M THE WORLDS LEADING SUPERPOWER FOR CHEATS, HINTS AND TIPS. A SIMPLE CALL AND YOU'VE GOT THE CHEAT!

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Abe's Odysee
Ace Combat 3
Actra Soccer 1, 2 & 3
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Adventures of Memon
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Air Combat
Alien Trilogy
Alundra
Ape Escape
Androm Racing
A. Kournikova Tennis
Apolo

Armoured Core

Armoured Core: Project Phantasma

Alpha

Auto-Destruct

Ball Blazer Champions

Blitz Machinehead

Blitz Roots

Blood Orange

Blood Roar 2

Bomberman World

Brahma Force

Brian Lara Cricket

Bubble Bobble

Buby 3D

Bugs Bunny Lost in Time

Bugz Life

Bushido Blade 1

Bust a Move 1, 2 & 3

Cardinal Sin

Casper

Cheesy

Circuit Breakers

Civilisation 2

Colin McRae Rally

Colony Wars

Command & Conquer

Command & Conquer - Red Alert
Command & Conquer: Relativity
Constructor
Contra Legacy of Wars
Coolboards 1, 2 & 3
Courier Crisis
Crash Bandicoot 1, 2 & 3
Crime Killer
Criticom
Croc
D
Dark Forces
Darklight Conflict
Dead Conflict
Dead or Alive
Death Drop Dungeons
Descent
Descent Maximum
Descent Maximum
Destruktion
Devil Dice
Diablo
Die Hard 1, 2 & 3
Disruptor
Doom
Driver
Duke Nukem: Time to Kill
Duke Nukem: Total Meltdown
Dynasty Wars
Elminator
Erkheza
ESPN Extreme Games
Everybody's Golf
Evil Zone
Explosive Racing
Excavitor 2555 A.D.
Explosive Racing
Extreme Tennis
Fade to Black
Felony 11-79
FIFA '96, '97, '98 & '99
Fighting Force

Final Doom
Final Fantasy VII
Firo and Klayd
Formula 97 & '98
Formula Kart
Forsaken
Frenzy
Frrogger
Future Cop: LAPD
Gex, 3D & Enter the Gecko
Ghoi in the Shell
Gold Steamer
G Police
Gran Turismo
Grand Theft Auto & London 1969
Gunship
Gu-Sin Oyoyo
Hard Boiled
Hard Edged
Hyper Formation Soccer
Hercules
Hermie Hooperhead
Hexen
Hyper Formation Soccer
Impact Racing
Independence Day
Indy 500
International Track and Field
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ISS Pro '98 & Deluxe
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Jersey Devil
Jet Rider
Jonah Lomu Rugby
Kensei
Klonoa
Knockout Kings
Krazy Ivan
Kula World
Kunin-Pa

Lemmings 3D
Libero Grande
LifeForce Tenka
Loader
London
Lucky Luke
Lunar Silver Star
Machine Hunter
Madness '99
Magical Carpet
Magic Gathering Battle Mage
Metal Super Heroes
Mass Destruction
Max Power R-Acing
MDK
Mech Warrior 2
Med-Evil
Metal Gear Solid
Micro Machines v3
Mobile Suit Gundam
Monopoly
Monster Trucks
Mortal Kombat 3, 4 & Trilogy
Motor Racer 1 & 2
Motor Head
Motor Toon Grand Prix 1 & 2
Nagano Winter Olympics '98
NASCAR Racing '99
NBA Jam Extreme
Need for Speed 1, 2, 3 & 4
NHL '97, '98 & '99
NHL Breakaway '98
NHL Face-off '97 & '98
Nightmare Creatures
Ninjo
Nowastorm
Nuclear Strike
One
Pandemonium 1 & 2
Parappa the Rapper
Paradise

Pearl Dive Eye
Peak Performance
Pitfall 3D
Porsche Challenge
Power Move Pro Wrestling
Poy Poy
Primer Manager '98
Psychic Force
Rage Racer
Rally Cross
Rapid Racer
Rascal
Roy Storm
Roy Tracer
Royman
Rebel Assault 2
Reboot
Re-loaded
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Total Eclipse Turbo
Total NBA '97
Tunnel 1
Twin Bee

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UEFA Champions League
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Torn apart this month...

p48 Driver



■ Find out which missions to choose and the quickest ways to beat them

p58 Final Fantasy VII



■ Enemy skills: where to get 'em, how to use 'em

p60 Ape Escape

p62 Tomb Raider III

p63 Silent Hill

p63 Colony Wars 2

DRIVER

Mission-by-mission tips to keep you out of jail

DETAILS

GAME: Driver

PRICE: £44.99

REVIEWED: May 1999

SCORE: 94%

VERDICT: Games don't get any cooler

GENERAL TIPS

Nuggets of wisdom that'll help you beat the cops whatever the weather.

COP KILLER

If you need to lose a tail fast and haven't taken much damage, just turn round and ram the cop car until it dies. You're much stronger, so a couple of good hits will do the trick.



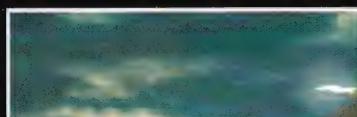
■ Pull a quick 180 and go at them head on



■ The police cars aren't that tough

AVOID THE LAW

The best way to stay safe on the last few levels is to drive down the pavement on the wrong side of the road and stay close to the buildings. Anyone chasing you will hit oncoming traffic or posts, but you'll need to watch out for lampposts yourself.



■ Stay close on the pavement and drive on the wrong side of the road to lose tails

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

Don't worry about making several attempts at a mission - it helps to scope out the best routes. Always check the map when you start out so you know exactly where to go. If there's a tight time limit, load up 'Take a Ride' mode and check the route in your own time.

NARROW ROADS

Although it's easier to drive quickly on freeways, narrow roads can help stop cops. As soon as they see you breaking the law they turn round to give chase, but if the road is narrow they'll usually smash into a wall.



■ Stay on the straight and narrow



■ The cops will smash straight into the wall

STARSKY STYLE

Your motor will tail slide whenever you go round a corner with the slightest hint of speed. To correct a slide, just apply some opposite lock. So if you're turning right and start to slide, press left to straighten things out.



■ As you go into the corner, you'll slide



■ Steer the other way to pull out of the skid

CRAP WHEN WET

Sliding gets even worse in the wet, 'cos your crap old car has zero traction. You might even need to take things easy when cornering, because a full-on spin will lose you more time than just slowing down a bit.



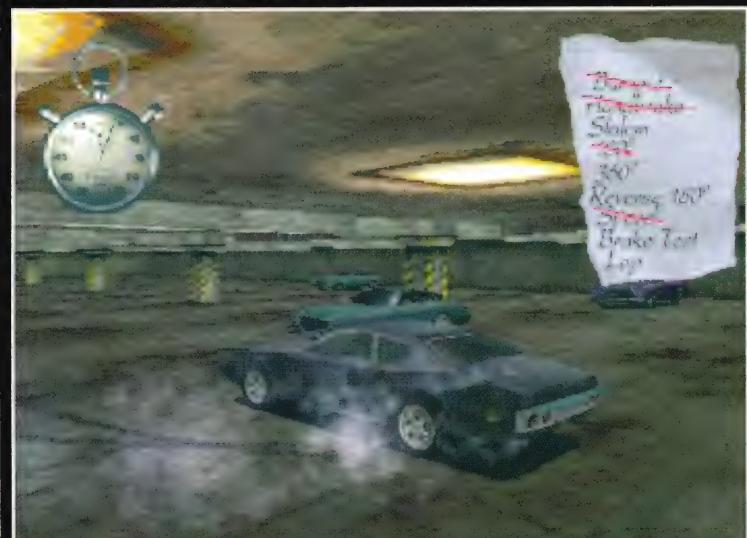
■ If it's raining your car's handling is crap



■ Skids can cost you a lot of time

THE DRIVING TEST

You can get several moves out of the way at once. Start with a burnout, and keep on the gas until you get to the last row of pillars. Slam on the handbrake and turn hard left. You should clear handbrake, speed, 180 and, if you're lucky, brake test in one go. Now do the slalom using the handbrake to skid around the pillars at speed. You've gotta go all the way up the car park, turn and come back. Now do a 360 - just hold burnout and turn in either direction. The reverse 180 is the hardest trick to do. Reverse at speed, take your finger off the gas as you start to turn one way, then press the accelerator and turn hard in the other direction. Finally do the lap. If you're good you can do the whole thing in about 35 seconds.



■ Do a big screeching turn round the pillars to knock out four tricks at once



■ Use handbrake to slalom round the pillars



■ Hold burnout and turn hard to do the 360

Instant Expert: Driver

MIAMI

Which missions to choose to make it easy on yourself, plus a full guide to how to do 'em all.

EASY ROUTES

HARD ROUTES



MISSION 1: THE BANK JOB

Dead easy. Turn right out of the motel, then go down the left side of the warehouse district and take the freeway over the water so when you park outside the bank you're facing east. If you're too early, your cover will be blown so wait about a block away from the bank and drive in with five seconds on the timer.

After the job, come it down the narrow road ahead and look out for the second walled bridge on your right. Turn down it and head for the building shown below. Bingo!



Turn right at the second bridge and head for this building. Easy

MISSION 2: TICCO'S RIDE

Your passenger, mob geezer Ticco, is well easy to find. He's hanging out by the side of the road halfway along the route you took to the bank in the first mission.

When you've got Ticco, head for Coconut Grove, but watch out for the cops. He's on his way to a hit, so he won't appreciate a tail. The best route is to do a U-turn straight away, then take the first right, go left at the monorail, then turn right again and keep going straight to the end of the road. If you made sure to shake the cops earlier, s'easy.



Pick up the mobster and do a swift 180. But lose the cops first.

MISSION 5: CASE FOR A KEY



After the pick-up, head back the way you came. The time limit's even tighter this time round, and there's loads more cops. Don't worry about them though, just floor it, make the left turn to the marina and concentrate on getting there in one piece.

You ain't gonna avoid the law on this one. Just outrun them. The road to the marina is on the left, but keep 'em peeled 'cos it's narrow and easy to miss. The rendezvous point's straight ahead



It's a set up! Chase the boat round to Dodge Island - you'll need to turn right out of the marina and then right again onto the island road. When you reach the island, cut straight through the middle of the first warehouses, then follow the handy signs round to the jetty. Your car will most likely be shagged by this point, so slow right down to get through any roadblocks.

It helps to slow down for roadblocks if you're damaged. Slam through these crates for the quickest route

MISSION 3: THE CLEAN UP

Once you're in the hot car, the cops will be all over you like a rash, so it's important to keep moving as quickly as possible. Go all the way to the south of the map and take the freeway - you can swerve onto the central divider to avoid roadblocks.

There's no point turning up with a tail. Get on the freeway as quickly as possible and expect to get chased all the way. Once you get near the meeting point, turn round and smash your pursuers. Look for this entrance when you reach the rendezvous



You've got a long way to go and not much time, so check the map and plan your route carefully. Take the first right after turning out of the motel, then go left onto the freeway. A few blocks after the raised section is a park block - cut diagonally right across here to save a few seconds. Stay on the freeway until you reach the east coast, then just floor it up the seafront to the rendezvous.

Heavy traffic doesn't help. Watch out for lane changers and keep moving fast because the time limit's VERY tight

MISSION 4: HIDE THE EVIDENCE

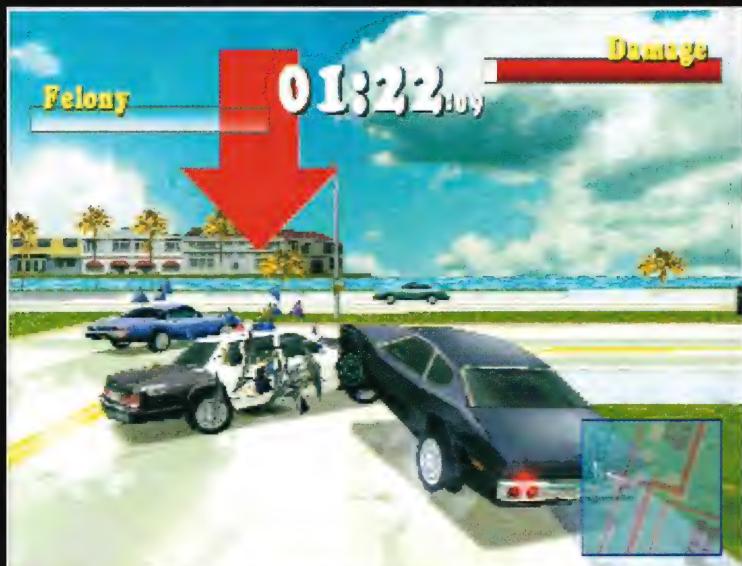
The breakers' yard is close to the motel where you start. Because the car is already 'hot' you're bound to meet the cops en route, so just keep going and ram anyone tailing you when you reach the yard. For the best results, use the narrow road to the north to get over to the mainland. Any cops you meet will smack into the wall when they try to turn around and chase you.

Idiot cops will smack into the wall as they give chase. Make sure to lose any tails before you get to the yard or it's curtains for you



MISSION 7: BUST OUT JEAN PAUL

Let the cop car head straight down the freeway. Give chase, using the **L2** and **R2** buttons to keep tabs on it when it veers left and right. After the raised section of the freeway is a sharp right hand bend. When the rozzers slows down for this, slam into him at full speed. Get it right and you'll total him in one hit.



■ Use burnout to catch up with the cop car. Use **L2** to keep tabs on your target's position. The cop wants to go down the freeway. Let him. One well timed ram at the corner will take him out

You're in a good position to escape. Take the alley that leads from the bend where you rammed the copper, head north up the narrow road and turn right at the end to get to the safehouse. When you reach your destination, look for the highlighted garage and drive straight in.



■ Make the coppers crash by driving over here



■ This is the garage you are looking for

MISSION 8: PAYBACK

You have to trash five restaurants in three minutes, which isn't easy unless you know where you're going. You don't have to hit 'em in order - the radar will change if you go past a closer target. Use the map to plan out your route in advance; you need to be right on top of things if you're going to wreck all the restaurants within the time limit.

■ You can pretty much ignore the cops on this one. Just keep moving at high speed and cut all the corners you can to save time. It's hard, but soon you can deal Miami cuisine a bitter blow



MISSION 9: A SHIPMENT'S COMING IN



The long, narrow road leading to Dodge Island is usually crawling with cops, so this is a good mission to practice careful driving. The island itself is like a maze - but the map in the options screen will show you the best route to the pick-up point.

Once you've made your pick-up you need to get back to the motel without raising the alarm. Stick firmly to the Highway Code on your way back.

■ You heard the man. Move it. Take it easy on the way back to avoid attracting the law

MISSION 10: SUPERFLY DRIVE

Less than three minutes to get a fragile car right across the map but the car's so quick that any chasing cops will eat your dust. Back up half a block to the freeway then nail it to the east, using the route outlined in mission 6. At the end of the freeway, turn left onto the second last road and keep going until you get to an alleyway on the right at the top end of the road.



■ Back up half a block to the freeway. The car's very fragile, so watch out for traffic



■ This car is too fast for the cops to keep up. Your destination is this dark alleyway

MISSION 11: BAIT FOR A TRAP

Time is tight again, but take the narrow roads to the north for the quickest route and just outrun the cops when they give chase. When you reach the target car don't smack into it too hard - if you cripple it, it'll be too slow to chase you.

■ Just nudge the target car when you catch him. You want to annoy him, not kill him



■ Keep an eye on your tail using **L2** and **R2**. Duck in here to spring the trap



Now high tail it to the rendezvous point. You'll need to make a jump over one of the hump backed bridges but if you take it slow you shouldn't lose control. You're looking for an underground carpark - the entrance is on the east side of the black highlighted area on the map.

MISSION 12: TAKE OUT DI'ANGIO'S CAR

It's hard to predict which way Di'Angio will go, but more often than not he'll take the first left, then cut left again over the rough ground. If you can stay close and continually pressure him into making a mistake, he'll eventually have to slow down. When he does, get alongside so you can gently barge him into the wall and kill the car.

■ The sneaky git is trying to escape. Don't let him get away. Side impacts cause the most damage so get alongside him to stop him turning suddenly. A job well done



MISSION 13: THE INFORMANT



■ Grab Jesse. You only have a few seconds to do it, so be quick

You've gotta be quick because your target is on a speeding monorail. Chasing it across town in the rain is tricky 'cos the roads are very slippery, so go easy on the powersliding and be very careful around trees and other cars. The train moves VERY fast, so you'll have to learn its route pretty damn well before you can beat it to the end of the line. Stick to wide roads wherever possible. Make a hard right at the end of the line to cut the train off.

Once you reach the end of the line you only have a few seconds to grab Jesse, so make sure you're in place early on or you won't make it. This level's a toughie, so it'll probably take a couple of goes.

Instant Expert: Driver

SAN FRANCISCO

Choose your missions, then go out there and win 'em.



MISSION 1: THE CASINO JOB

Race over to the Casino, getting used to those wacky San Fran drivers. As with the first bank job you need to get to the rendezvous just as the timer runs out to avoid unwelcome attention from the boys in blue. Park about a block away and wait till the timer gets to five seconds before pulling up to the meeting point.

After the job it's an easy run to the Warehouse, but watch out for trams: they don't stop for anybody.

■ Get into the warehouse on the south side



MISSION 2: THE BRIEFCASE

You've got three checkpoints to reach before the rendezvous and you've got to pass them without the cops on your tail. A tight time limit doesn't help, so stay cool and have a couple of goes to suss the best route. The checkpoints are at Downtown, Nob Hill and Russian Hill. After this it's a fairly easy ride to the rendezvous over in Presidio.

Next, it's a run over the Golden Gate Bridge to make a pick-up in the mountains. The time limit is OK if you floor it all the way but this is a long mission and you carry over damage from the first part, so drive carefully. After the pick-up, just head straight back the way you came to get to the rendezvous. Mission complete!



■ Be prepared to slow down for cops. Turn right at this park for the first checkpoint. Make sure you're not being tailed when you get to the checkpoints or rendezvous, or you're toast



■ It's a long mission and you don't want to do it twice, so make sure to drive carefully. The two journeys across the Golden Gate shouldn't pose too many problems if you stay cool

MISSION 3: GUNS IN THE TRUNK



Get over to the meeting point at Fisherman's Wharf to pick up some shooters. It's dead simple - just turn left out of the motel, then hang a left at the end of the road and take a left again at the bottom of the hill.

Next, make for the rendezvous in the south. Keep cool and keep clear of the cops. The entrance to the target building is on the south side.

■ Go round the south side of the target building to find the entrance

MISSION 4: VISIT TO THE MALL

The easiest way to get to the mall is to turn right out of the motel, then turn right again and follow the road round to the top of the map. You're looking for a gap in the wall by the map beacon.



■ Look for the gap in the wall when you get up to the map beacon

As soon as the job is done the place will be crawling with cops. Move out fast and take a diagonal route across the city - hopefully all the turns will help you lose the cops.



■ Watch your damage meter on your way home: you've got a long way to go

MISSION 5: TAXI!

You need to intimidate your passenger into coughing up some info, so get cracking. Start out with a burnout into a 360, then do a fast handbraked 180 and head off up the hill. Jumping off the top of slopes is good, as is playing chicken with oncoming cars or even ramming them. If you keep doing the same move it won't have as much effect, so try to keep things varied.



■ Start out as you mean to go on with a mean 360. Hitting other cars is a good way to scare the pants off your passenger

MISSION 6: COSY TO THE CHOPPER

Turn right out of the motel, take the second left, then third left, and Cosy will be waiting just round the corner. The roads are slippy so drive carefully.



■ Pick up Cosy in Chinatown



■ Take it slow. There's plenty time on this one

MISSION 7: IN THE PICK UP

You're driving a truck with a mysterious explosive crate in the back that slides about as you corner and brake. Dodge oncoming cops by ducking out of

the way at the last minute: do it right and they'll end up miles behind you, and you won't have had to swerve around too much. The best route is to turn left out of the garage, then take the first right and keep going until you are parallel to the target beacon (it's the tenth left if you're counting). Look for an alleyway leading to the target.



■ When you turn the crate slides about, so be careful out there, huh?



■ Look for this alleyway to finish up the mission. Easy when you know how

MISSION 8: THE CHINATOWN PICK UP

Turn left out of the motel, then left at the end of the road and go all the way Downtown, where you need to turn left again to meet your Mafia passengers. The time limit is no problem and there shouldn't be many cops to give you hassle.

After the pick up, go back the way you came to the 'crib' in Russian Hill. If you drive carefully you shouldn't attract the police.

■ Take the goons back to Russian Hill. Stay within the law and it's easy



MISSION 9: THE MERCY MISSION

Your first destination is almost the same as in The Chinatown Pick-Up - but this time take the second to last left turn when you get to Downtown, and

then the next left to find the phone box. You've got much time, so floor it. By this stage you'll know the territory, so it shouldn't be too hard.



■ Once you get to Downtown, hang a left here to get to the phone box



■ Slow right down for this corner, otherwise you'll miss the turning

The second phone box is way to the south, and you only have a minute to get there. If you have a major crash you might as well start again 'cos you need every second. Luckily, the route's mostly straight, so you can just go at top speed all the way.

The third and final phone box is over to the west of the map. Go north and turn left at the multi-storey car park (it's the spiral on the map). Go to the end of the road and turn right, then take the second left. The time limit's a bit more forgiving on this one.



■ You've only got a minute for this section, but if you don't crash you'll make it



■ Turn left at the multi-storey car park. You'll need to do a jump to get to the last phone box



■ The cops give chase. Stay cool and they won't see you for dust

MISSION 10: THE SET UP

Get to the multi-storey car park. It's the spiral on the map about halfway down the east side. Drive right up to the top for the rendezvous.

It's a complete set-up! Race back to the motel. Fortunately the cops inside the car park tend to have trouble getting out, so you have a bit of a breathing space before they catch you. You'll need to shake all of 'em off before you reach the motel.

■ Head for the spiral on the map and drive up to the top floor



MISSION 11: THE HYDE STREET PICK UP



Go Downtown again. This time, turn right when you get there and hurry down to the end of the tram line. Wait there for the train.

You'll have to get away quickly once you've made the pick-up 'cos there's loads of cops. Follow the tram line and take the fifth right then the first left. Your target is the underground car park in the large open square. Shake off any tail before you go in.

■ Get out of there as soon as you've got Ross. Take a right into the underground car park

MISSION 12: TANNER AND SLATER

Use burnout at the start of the mission to catch up with Slater. If you keep close he'll go straight on, but even if he turns you can use the same tactics. Bash into the side of his car again and again as he weaves in and out of the traffic. He's not that fast or even that tough, so caning him shouldn't pose too many problems.

■ Use burnout to catch up with Slater. Use R2 to keep an eye on him as he swerves about. A few crunching sideswipes will sort him out



Instant Expert: Driver

LOS ANGELES

Things start to get a little trickier in the City of Angels. Make it easy on yourself and stay cool with these mission-busting guides.



MISSION 1: STEAL A COP CAR

You've got to be quick here and a weak cop car can't take too many hits. Follow the road round, take the second right and floor it right across the middle of the map. Don't worry about hitting the posts in the road - you won't take any damage. Don't show your face at the meeting point until you've lost any cops who're tailing you.



■ Turn right here and race across the middle of the map. If things get congested, drive through the bits with posts: the other cars won't follow you and you won't take any hits.

MISSION 2: THE CHASE

Another car chase, this time versus Duval, and in the rain. He puts up more of a fight than Slater, but again if you can get alongside him, he's finished. The only real problem is spinning out on the wet roads if Duval turns unexpectedly. This mission's pretty tough, so expect to have a few goes before you get it right.



■ If you spin in the rain you'll lose Duval, so try and hit him as he turns, and you'll slow him up. Once you've caught up with Duval it should be easy to take him out.

MISSION 3: LUCKY TO THE DOC'S

Blast over to the east to pick up Lucky. You've only got a minute so you can't afford to make any mistakes or even slow down for a moment. You're looking for an alleyway on the right at the top of the hill.

Now it's another tight time limit to get to the doc's. If you pick up any cops you'll need to lose them before you get there.

■ Pick up Lucky from this alleyway. You'll have to shake off the cops before you get to the Doc's.



MISSION 4: MAYA

Another 'medical' problem. You've got a minute to grab Maya and there are cops en route. Go first left, then right, left, right and left again.

Now race to the hospital. There will only be a few cops but again you're short on time. Turn round then go left at the end of the road, right at the top of the hill and floor it down to the hospital.

■ Make sure you don't lose control - you don't have time. Even superfly drivers will struggle to make it on time.



MISSION 5: THE MADDOX HIT

Do a U-turn, then take the first left, then turn right and floor it to the car park - it's another spiral on the map. Don't mess up the car park too much or you'll clutter your escape route.



■ Try not to cause too many car crashes in the multi-storey, or you'll make escaping difficult.

Now get to the Chinese Cinema. There are loads of cops, so be wary. There's no way through Santa Monica so turn right out of the car park and then right again before driving across town.



■ Take the first right out of the car park and head across town.

After the hit, go straight on, then turn right at the end of the road. Take the first left, go to the end of the road again, take the first right, then turn left onto the freeway, then follow the road round to the left to get to the warehouse. You're looking for a building on the left with an open door.



■ The entrance to the warehouse you need to get to is on the south side.

MISSION 6: THE TEST RUN

Turn right out of the yard then take the first right and just cruise on over to the other side of the

map. There's no time limit so you can either take it easy or wind up the cops. It's your call.

MISSION 7: THE BEVERLY HILLS GETAWAY

Do a U-turn, then take the second right and head for Beverly Hills. There's enough time to slow down, so go easy when there's cops around.

After this it's another leisurely run to the lock-up. Use the main road in the middle, and stay slow so the cops don't follow.

The cops are waiting for you, so you'll need to leg it to the safe house. It's on the other side of town. Go back to the main road across the middle of the map and just drive as fast as you can. Again, you'll need to lose any cops tailing you before showing up at the safe house.



■ Take this right for Beverly Hills. Making it on time shouldn't be a problem.



■ Turn right onto the main road here. It's the fuzz! Time for a change of plans.

The boys in blue play pretty rough in L.A.
- but hell, you're a tough guy yourself



MISSION 8: LUCKY TO THE CRIB

It's an easy ride to pick up the gangsters for this mission. Go straight to the end of the road, turn left then go straight on to the end of the road. Take a right to meet up with your mobster chums.



Slow down for the cops when you've got time. Pick up your gangster pals here

Now go get Lucky. Go straight on, and right at the top of the hill, then take the first right and follow the road round. Take it at medium speed.

If you've got this far without alerting the cops you have an easy drive back to the 'crib'. If not, just hit the gas and burn 'em up.



Turn right at the top of this hill



Take Lucky back to the crib. Easy ride

NEW YORK

The Big Apple's the setting for the final showdown. These 'un's are tricky, especially the last mission.

LUTHER'S HEAP
O' JUNK

THE RESCUE

TAKE A CAB

TAKE OUT
GRANGER'S BOYS

THE ALI
SITUATION

EASY
ROUTES

HARD
ROUTES

GRAND CENTRAL
STATION SWITCH

THE ACCIDENT

TRASH
GRANGER'S
WHEELS

THE NEGATIVES

RITE OF PASSAGE

MISSION 1: LUTHER'S HEAP O' JUNK

There's no time limit, so this is a good opportunity to check out the mean streets of New York City. A diagonal route turning right then left repeatedly across town seems to attract very few coppers. Keep on the move and this one shouldn't pose too many problems. Be careful though, 'cos your car's shagged and it'll blow after one or two hits.

The car's completely shagged - and you've only just started. Keep turning left and right to fox the cops, but mind the corners 'cos a couple of crashes will finish you off



MISSION 2: THE RESCUE

Go straight on and cut diagonally left across the park on the next block. Now race up to the river and hang a left. When you get to the two huge buildings on the right, look for a covered alleyway between them. Stop at the rendezvous on a 180 so you can make a quick getaway.

Now head for the safe house. There's roadblocks on the road by the river, so go a couple of blocks inland and keep changing direction to fox the cops.

This alleyway leads to the rendezvous.



»

Instant Expert: Driver

MISSION 3: GRAND CENTRAL STATION SWITCH

Go straight up to the end of the road and turn right, then take the second left then the second right to get to Madison Square Garden. It's raining, so getting there on time is pretty tricky.



■ It's raining, so watch you don't spin. Get to Madison Square Garden as quick as you can

After the rendezvous, keep going straight. Take the fourth road on the right (by the second Park building), then left at the end of that road, second right and finally left again to get to the station.



■ Look for the Park building, and hang a right just before it. Time's tight, so hurry!



Turn round and head off down the wide road. Weave across both sides to avoid the super fast black FBI cars that start tailing you. Take the fifth road on the right and go back up to Madison Square Garden. You can outrun the FBI if you slalom between cars and lampposts, but they're much faster and tougher than any of the cop cars you've met before, so stay on your toes.

■ The FBI will stop at nothing to get you. Slalom between oncoming traffic and lampposts to get away from them

MISSION 4: THE ACCIDENT

Dead simple. Make a quick start so you're on the road before the getaway car. Use your L2 button to see where it is and brake so it will slam into your car. This will kill it in about ten seconds but getting your positioning right will probably take a few goes.



■ Use L2 to see where your target is. Slow down, then park your motor right in his way to kill him stone dead

MISSION 5: TAKE A CAB

Turn right, then keep going straight till you reach the road to the Brooklyn Bridge. It's easy to find - just turn left at the park. Over the bridge, follow the road round, then take the first right into Brooklyn and go right at end of the road. They need the cab in good nick, so try not to trash it.



■ Take a left at this park to reach the Brooklyn Bridge - make sure not to trash the cab, or you'll be in all sorts of trouble

MISSION 6: TAKE OUT GRANGER'S BOYS

You have four cars to kill in three minutes, but unfortunately the last three appear at random. The first one is always at the junction dead ahead, but after that they can be anywhere. You won't get

much hassle from the cops until you're on your way to the last car, so you can pretty much ignore them on this mission. Just drive like a maniac all the way and hope the cars appear near you.



■ The first car is always straight ahead. Put your foot down; if you hit him hard enough he'll die in one shot



■ Doing good. Three cars down in a minute. Expect the cops to be after you when you're hunting the last motor

MISSION 7: THE ALI SITUATION

Go straight up and take the fourth road on the left, then zoom along to the World Trade Center - it's the two really huge towers on the left. Ali is hanging out between them. You have two minutes, so there's plenty of time for cop avoidance.

Now you have to get back to the motel near Central Park. You can pretty much retrace your route to the pick up, and the cops won't give you much trouble.

■ Turn left here to get to the World Trade Center. Ali is waiting between the two towers



MISSION 8: TRASH GRANGER'S WHEELS



Take the diagonal left over the park on the block straight ahead. Carry on westwards to the park with the archway. Granger's car is on the other side: it's stationary so it's easy to ram and destroy. There's cops waiting for you, so get it right first time.

Now get back to the motel. The way you came is fine, but you'll need to lose the cops first.

■ Granger's car is on the other side of this park. Hit it hard and it'll be totalled before the cops can get to you

MISSION 9: THE NEGATIVES

Another pesky chase mission. The cab usually takes the first right, then goes left to weave about in the trees. As ever, try and get alongside it, but because it turns a lot you'll also get quite a few chances to smash into it when it slows down for corners. Unfortunately, the amount the cab weaves makes it pretty difficult to keep up with.

■ Hit the cab side on when it is turning for maximum effect, or try and get alongside it, then push it off the road. It's pretty tough, so you'll have to keep at it



MISSION 10: RITE OF PASSAGE



Four minutes to get right across the map in the rain at night with heavy traffic. Do a U-turn, follow the road round, then do two lefts to get onto Brooklyn Bridge. On the other side, go straight to the end of the road and cut right across the small park. Now take the fifth road on the left and follow it around to the right. Take the last but one road on the left when you get to the far east of the map and follow it round to the right to reach the rendezvous.

■ Mind the traffic on the bridge - you'll run out of time if you crash too much.

MISSION 11: THE PRESIDENT'S RUN

The last mission and it's ridiculously hard. There are roadblocks in all directions, and as soon as you pass one the cops and the FBI will be on your ass. The easiest route is to just nail it straight down the road you start on. You'll need to go fast though, and be prepared to correct skids when your pursuers smash into the back of you. If you get smashed into a wall on your way to the rendezvous, you're basically finished so you might as well start again.

Take the last but one road on the right, and follow it round. Your target is an opening on the left hand side just around the bend. This mission's well tricky, but just keep at it.



■ This right leads to the rendezvous. Keep your speed at maximum all the way, and watch out for cops ramming into you from behind



GO FOR IT!

We've got our hands on some crazy stuff, and all you have to do to win 'em is to pick your prize, crack the code and it's yours!

09069 107990 Instant Win!



win Sony PlayStation!

09069 107991

win Nintendo 64!

09069 107992

win PSX Accessories!

09061 406071 Instant Win!



win N64 Accessories!

09061 406072 Instant Win!



Win a Sega Dreamcast!

..the console for the next millenium.



09069 107993



win Color Gameboy!

PLUS Camera & Printer
09069 102855



win STAR WARS Prizes!

Episode 1 collectables **09069 102852**

Phantom Menace Game **09069 102853**

Star Wars Racer Game **09069 102854**



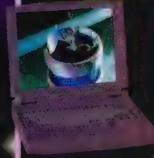
win South Park stuff!

09069 107994



Win a Pentium II Laptop PC!

09061 406073 Instant Win!



Win Pentium III with DVD!

09061 406074 Instant Win!



win Mobile Phone!

A digital Panasonic "Pay as you talk phone"
09069 107995



win TV & Video!

09069 107996



GRAB-A-GAME

The smart way to get the game of your choice... it's as easy as one, two, three.



- 1 Select your Machine.
- 2 Select the Game you want
- 3 Guess the Code to Win!

09061 406075 Instant Win!



PRIZEBUSTER

THE HIGHER THE SCORE THE BIGGER THE PRIZE!

09061 406076 Instant Win!

Score 30 points or more to start winning! Win Personal Stereos, Ghetto Blasters, Radios, Fashion Watches, Databanks, Video Players, PlayStations, 14" Colour TV's and a top prize of a Pentium II computer



ALIEN WPEOUT!

Answer questions then Zap SIX Aliens to win a prize from the list.

09061 406077

Instant Win!

Prizeline 08700 101574



Go 4 Goals

Answer questions then score SIX goals to win a prize from the list.

09061 406078

Instant Win!



Bovver Bruvvers!

Arrest all SIX Bovver Bruvvers and win a prize from the list.

09061 406079

Instant Win!



To win one of these great prizes just call the telephone number shown and follow the instructions. Most competitions require a tone phone. If a competition is marked INSTANT WIN then you will be told if you are a winner during your call. PrizeBuster has 6 questions worth 1-10 points each and winners must achieve the required number of points. Instant Win competitions have multiple choice questions plus a game to decide if you are an instant winner. Other competitions involve multiple choice questions with tiebreaker and end on the 30th November 1999 (unless otherwise indicated), after which they may be replaced by a similar service on the same number. Actual designs may vary.

Calls to these numbers cost up to £3, so it is important that you ask permission from the person who pays the phone bill. If you would like a copy of the rules or winners' names, see our web site or send a stamped addressed envelope to the address below. If you are an INSTANT winner send your claim, with claim number, to:



InfoMedia Services Limited 'Claims Dept'. PO Box 28 Northampton NN1 5DS. www.InfoMedia-Services.co.uk
Customer Helpline: If you have difficulty with any of these services, then call 01 604 624 634

Instant Expert: Final Fantasy VII

FINAL FANTASY VII

Beating this monster RPG is all about getting hold of the most powerful enemy skills. To help we've found out what the best skills are and where to get them.

1 FROG SONG

MP5 ENEMIES

- **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST?**
Casts sleepel and frog on all enemies
 - **WHO DO I GET IT FROM?**
Either from a frog or a toxic frog



■ If you don't get it first time, keep trying

3 MAGIC HAMMER

**MP3
ENEMIES**

- **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST?**
Drains 100MP from an enemy and gives it to user
 - **WHO DO I GET IT FROM?**
The Razor Weeds

4 WHITE WIND

**MP 34
ALLIES**

- **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST?**
Doubles MP and restores status of all allies
 - **WHO DO I GET IT FROM?**
Zemelzett or Wind Wing

5 DRAGON FORCE

**MP19
ALLIES**

- **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST?**
Raises defence and magic defence of an ally
 - **WHO DO I GET IT FROM?**
The Dark Dragon

7 BIG GUARD

**MP56
ALLIES**

- **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST?**
Casts Barrier, M Barrier and Haste on all allies
 - **WHO DO I GET IT FROM?**
Beachplug



■ It does exactly what the name suggests

2 LV4 SUICIDE

MP 10 ENEMIES

- **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST?**
Causes critical damage and casts small on all *
 - **WHO DO I GET IT FROM?**
Trickplay

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

All the skills' names are at the top of the boxes. To the left of the names are numbers: these refer to the location of the spells. Simply look for the number on the map to find out where they're located. The MP values in the top right of the boxes tell you how many magic points are needed to work the skills. Below this is an indication of whether the skill is used on an ally or an enemy. And underneath this is a description of what the skill does when cast and who you'll need to find to get the skill.

OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF

- * Only works on enemies with EXP levels in multiples of 4
 - ** Effect is equal to the amount of damage user has received in battle
 - *** Effect equal to enemies max MP multiplied by number of times user has previously escaped from battle
 - **** Only works on enemies with EXP levels in multiples of 5



12 BAD BREATH MP 58 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Casts Poison, Confusion, Sleep, Small, Silence and Frog on all enemies
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Marlboro

13 BETA MP 35 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Extreme Fire Element damage to all enemies
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Midgar Zolom (within the Midgar Marshes)

14 AQUALUNG MP 34 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Extreme Water-Element damage to all enemies
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Jenova - Life or Serpent

15 TRINE MP 20 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Lightning Element damage to all enemies
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? The Materia Keeper or Godo (Pagoda LV5)

16 MAGIC BREATH MP 75 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Fire, Ice and Lightning element damage to all
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Stilva

17 ???? MP 3 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Non-element damage to all **
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Jersey (Shinra mansion) or Behemoth (Wutai area)

18 GOBLIN PUNCH MP 0 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Non-element damage to an enemy
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Goblin

19 CHOCOBUCKLE MP 3 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Non-element damage to an enemy ***
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? From any LV4 Chocobo

20 DEATH SENTENCE MP 10 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Casts death onto an enemy after sixty seconds
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Sneaky Step or the G Spectre

21 LV5 DEATH MP 22 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Causes sudden death to all ****
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Parasite

22 ROULETTE MP 6 EITHER

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Causes random death to an enemy or ally
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Death Dealer

23 SHADOW FLARE MP 100 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Extreme non-element damage to an enemy
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? Dragon Zombie or Sephiroth

24 PANDORA'S BOX MP 110 ENEMIES

- WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT'S CAST? Varying non-element damage to all enemies
- WHO DO I GET IT FROM? The Dragon Zombie

MATERIA CAVE 1

MATERIA CAVE 2

DETAILS

GAME:	Final Fantasy VII
PRICE:	\$18.99
REVIEWED:	June 99
SCORE:	88%
VERDICT:	Still the King of RPGs

Q&A

We've got stacks of hints, tips and cheats. And y'know what, we're not afraid to use them. So if you've got a gaming problem, we have the solution.

Featured in Q&A this month

p60	Driver	p62	Crime Killer
p60	Ape Escape	p62	Small Soldiers
p60	Bomberman World	p62	Max Power Racing
p61	Soul Blade	p62	Tomb Raider III
p61	Soviet Strike	p63	Silent Hill
p61	Resident Evil	p63	Colony Wars 2
p61	Rally Cross	p63	Shadow Master

New games, new cheats

Hot off the shelves

Want Driver cheats? No sooner said than done. And if that little lot isn't enough to whet your cheatin' appetite we've got hints, tricks and tips for loads of the toppest new games: Ape Escape, Triple Play 2000 and Bomberman World.

APE ESCAPE

LIFE SAVER

IF YOU FALL OFF A CLIFF PRESS START AND THEN EXIT. WHEN YOU GET TO THE TIME STATION YOU'LL HAVE THE SAME NUMBER OF LIVES AS BEFORE YOU FELL.



■ Keep the pause button handy for falls

SECRET TUNNEL

IN LEVEL 2, IN THE THICK TUNNEL, PUSH DOWN ON THE LEFT STICK WHEN YOU'RE STANDING BY THE STOP SIGN AND YOU'LL SEE A NEW HIDDEN TUNNEL.



■ Head into the secret tunnel

BOMBERMAN WORLD

We've got passwords for all the levels, including the secret ones.

PASSWORDS

BONUS VERSUS LEVEL	5656
BONUS BATTLE LEVEL	4989
BATTLE ROYAL MODE	1616
MANIAC MODE	4622

LEVEL CODES

LEVEL 1-1	8010
LEVEL 1-2	1180
LEVEL 1-3	8086
LEVEL 1-4	2919
LEVEL 1-5	1021
LEVEL 2-1	0127
LEVEL 2-2	1220
LEVEL 2-3	1018
LEVEL 2-4	0804
LEVEL 2-5	0714
LEVEL 3-1	1027
LEVEL 3-2	2413
LEVEL 3-3	3009
LEVEL 3-4	6502
LEVEL 3-5	6809
LEVEL 4-1	0627
LEVEL 4-2	8808
LEVEL 4-3	3674
LEVEL 4-4	4891
LEVEL 4-5	0605
LEVEL 5-1	0730
LEVEL 5-2	2151
LEVEL 5-3	3562
LEVEL 5-4	3812
LEVEL 5-5	2203

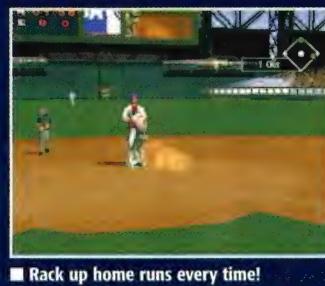


■ The bonus battle level. Very tasty

TRIPLE PLAY 2000

AUTOMATIC HOME RUN

WHEN BATTING HOLD ALL FOUR OF THE SHOULDER BUTTONS THEN PRESS □ ▢ ▣ ▤ IN SEQUENCE TO CLOCK UP A FREE HOME RUN.



■ Rack up home runs every time!

DRIVER



■ Leave the cops on their starting blocks with our cool cheats



■ Small car. Highly amusing... for five seconds



■ Invincibility. Makes the game VERY dull

SMALLER CARS

R1 R2 R1 R2 L1 L2 R1
R2 L1 R1 L2 L2 L2

JACKED-UP SUSPENSION

R2 R1 L2 R2 L1 R2
R2 L2 L1 R2 R1

GAME'S PLAYED UPSIDE DOWN

R2 R2 R1 L2 L1 R2 L2
L1 R2 R2 L2 L2 L1

CREDITS

L1 L2 R1 R2 L1 R1 R2
L2 R1 R2 L1 L2 R1

Platinum A-Z continued

S is for Sorted

We're up to S in our Platinum A-Z round up, bringing you cool cheats for primo beat 'em up Soul Blade and a fine selection of cheats and level codes for ace shooter Soviet Strike. Hold tight for next month's Ts...

SOUL BLADE

ALTERING THE VOICES

AT THE MAIN TITLE SCREEN YOU'LL HEAR A VOICE SAY 'SOUL BLADE'. YOU CAN CHANGE THE WAY SOUL BLADE IS SAID. HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES:

- L1 + L2 + ↓**
VOICE'LL SAY 'SOUL BLADE' VERY SLOWLY.
- L1 + L2 + ←**
GIRL'S VOICE SAYS 'SOUL BLADE' QUICKLY.

DIFFERENT OUTFITS

YOU CAN CHANGE THE OUTFITS WORN BY THE FIGHTERS BY ENTERING THESE CODES ON THE CHARACTER SELECT SCREEN:

COSTUME 1	□
COSTUME 2	✗ + □
COSTUME 3	○
COSTUME 4	△
COSTUME 5	✗ + △



■ Run through Siegfried's funky wardrobe with the costume change cheat

SOVIET STRIKE

INFINITE CHOPPERS

GO TO THE PASSWORD SCREEN AND ENTER: **ELVIS LIVES**. THEN PRESS **✗**. YOU'LL HEAR A GUNSHOT IF THE CHEAT HAS WORKED.

EXTRA LIVES

GO TO THE PASSWORD SCREEN AND ENTER **NOSFERATU**. THEN PRESS **✗**. THIS STARTS YOU ON THE LEVEL YOU'VE JUST PLAYED, BUT WITH SEVEN LIVES INSTEAD OF THREE.

MORE POWERFUL WEAPONS

GO TO THE PASSWORD SCREEN AND ENTER: **DAVEDITHER**. THEN PRESS **✗**.

CAMPAIGN PASSWORDS

CAMPAIGN 1	WORSTCASE
CAMPAIGN 2	GRANDTHEFT
CAMPAIGN 3	GROZNEY
CAMPAIGN 4	CHERNOBYL
CAMPAIGN 5	CIVILWAR



■ Get yourself a sackload of choppers to give those commies a bad case of violent death

Resident Evil

We have a problem with Resident Evil. We don't know where to go from the guard house to get to the labs. We've looked everywhere and we can't seem to find a door that'll take us there. Is there a trick to finding the way through?

Jonny Powell

room (the one opened with the 002 dormitory key) and push the two bookcases.

2 You should find that a stairwell is uncovered behind the bookcases. Head down it to meet your destiny.

3 You'll find a box puzzle at the bottom of the stairs. It's ridiculously easy, so you should breeze through it. After that, you'll get access to the labs.

■ To get to the labs, simply go to the dorm



■ Push the bookcases to uncover a secret passage leading through to the labs



■ Head down into the murky depths



■ Push a couple of blocks. Bingo!

Rally Cross

Rally stuck? We'll sort you out

Have you got any cheats or tips for the first Rally Cross game?

Ross Gwen

■ Everything we've got is coming your way, big man:

ALL THESE CODES SHOULD BE ENTERED IN THE SEASON MODE WHERE IT ASKS YOU FOR A PLAYER'S NAME.



■ Go head on into four cars in suicide mode

UNLOCK VETERAN	VET ME
UNLOCK PRO	IM A PRO
UNLOCK SUICIDE MODE	WEEOO
NO COLLISIONS	BANZAI
INVISIBLE CAR	WHEELS
INCREASE GRAVITY	STONE
DECREASE GRAVITY	FEATHER
RADICALLY DECREASE GRAVITY	FLOAT
BIG TIRES	FAT TIRES
INVISIBLE TIRES	NO WHEELS



■ Big tyres. Laugh? We nearly died

Silent Hill special

We've got the key, we've got the secrets

I can't find the last key to get through the house towards the school in the first bit of Silent Hill. Where do you get it?

Andy Smart

ANSWER The three keys you need are all hidden in fairly abstract locations around the first part of Silent Hill. The key of 'Woodman' is found in the basketball court in the alley behind the convenience store. The key of 'Scarecrow' is in a mailbox blocked by a fallen tree on Lehman street. The key of 'Lion' is in the boot of the police car which is abandoned by the edge of the chasm.



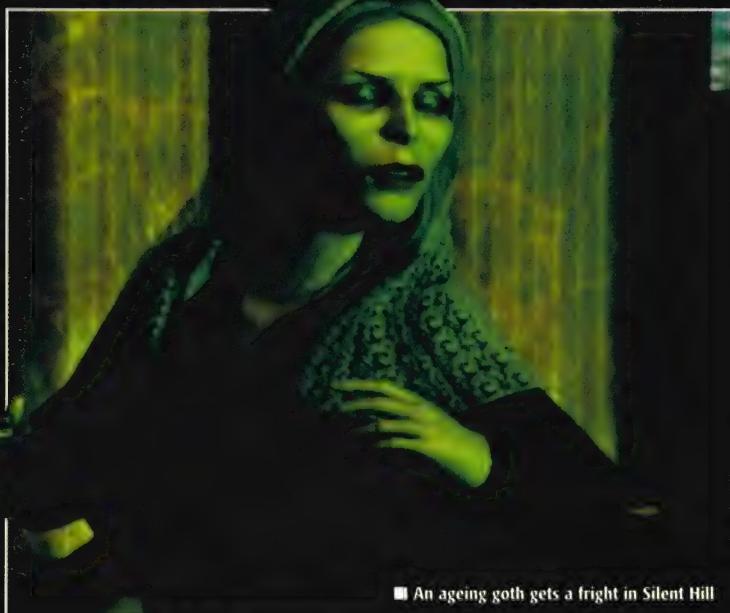
■ Key of 'Scarecrow' is in this mailbox at the bottom of Lehman Street



■ Key of 'Lion' is in the boot of the police car. There's ammo for the pistol near it on the ground



■ Key of 'Woodman' is in the basketball court next to the alley



■ An ageing goth gets a fright in Silent Hill

I can't get past the two pictures that say 'Light illuminating the Darkness'. What do I need to do?

Ben Farmer

ANSWER What you do is use the camera when you're standing in front of the pictures. That'll illuminate a pattern on them. The pattern shows you which buttons you have to press on the two keypads at the side of the room.



■ Just keep running round and round him



■ He should miss with his lightning every time

Colony Wars: Vengeance

Space blasters in trouble

Are there any cheats for Colony Wars: Vengeance?
Dale McBride

ANSWER There's a few fully loaded cheats out there. And here they are.

ENTER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AT THE PASSWORD SCREEN, REMEMBERING TO PUT IN THE CAPITAL AT THE START:

LEVEL SELECT

Demon

INVINCIBILITY

Vampire

ALL WEAPONS

Tornado



■ Pump up your ships with alien technology!

Shadow Master

Become the master

Hi, got any cheat type of things for Shadow master, 'cos I'm well stuck!
Donald Adams

ANSWER You've come to the right place. We've got so many Shadow Master cheats they're eating us out of house and home.

CHEAT MODE

BEGIN THE GAME, KILL THE FIRST TWO ALIENS AND ENTER THE ROOM THEY CAME FROM. ONCE IN THERE, PUNCH IN ANY OF THESE CODES TO ACTIVATE THE CHEATS. THE SCREEN'LL FLASH IF YOU'VE GOT IT RIGHT.

LEVEL SELECT

PRESS **L1 + L2 + R1 + R2 + □** ALL AT THE SAME TIME TO MAKE THE SCREEN FLASH GREEN. THEN QUIT THE GAME TO GET A LEVEL SELECT ON THE START SCREEN.

UNLIMITED ENERGY

HOLD **L1 + L2 + R1 + R2 + ○**, THEN INTENTIONALLY DIE. WHEN YOU RESTART, THE CHEAT'LL BE ACTIVATED.

ALL WEAPONS & AMMO

HOLD **L1 + L2 + R1 + R2 + ○**, THEN INTENTIONALLY DIE. RESTART.

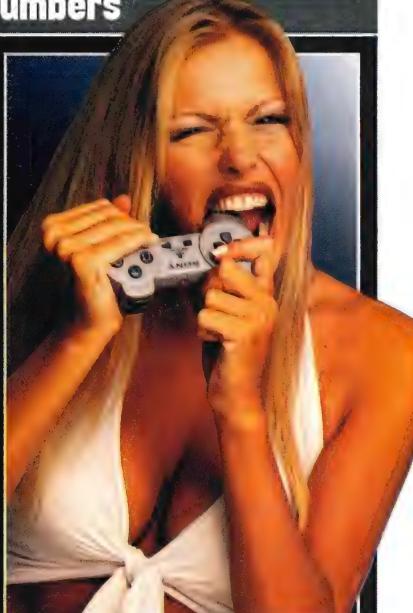
INVINCIBILITY

PRESS **L1 + L2 + R1 + R2 + ×** ALL AT THE SAME TIME.

Internet help & phone numbers

Got a game problem you can't solve? These are the people you need to phone and the websites you need to see. Cheats, hints, walkthroughs - the business.

ACCLAIM	09068 303330
ACTIVISION	01895 456700
TAKE 2	01429 855046
CODEMASTER	01926 816044
ELECTRONIC ARTS	0906 753253
EIDOS	0121 3560831
GT INTERACTIVE	0891 669910
INFOGRAMES	0161 827 8000
INTERPLAY	0839 662666
JVC	0171 240 3121
KONAMI	09014 747484
MICROPROSE	01454 893900
NAMCO	0881 505505
PSYGNOSIS	0151 282 3333
SONY	0881 505505
TELSTAR	01932 232299
THQ	07071 223388
UBI SOFT	0181 944 9000



PSX.IGN.COM	http://psx.ign.com/codes.html
GAMEFAQS	http://gamefaqs.com
PSX GAMER	http://www.psxgamer.co.uk/home.htm
CHEATMASTERS ONLINE	http://www.cheatmasters.ndirect.co.uk/cheats.html
PSX NATION	http://www.psxnation.com/
GAMES MANIA	http://www.gamesmania.com/cgi-bin/english/news/default.htm
THE PLAYSTATION GALLERIA	http://www.vidgames.com/
GAME SAGES	http://www.segasages.com
GAMES REVOLUTION	www.game-revolution.com/content.htm
ABSOLUTE PLAYSTATION	http://www.a-p-i.net/absolute-playstation/tips/cheats.htm

Stuff you need to know

1 Your game's name

Work out the name of your game by choosing an animal that begins with the first letter of your first name. That's the first word. Next, think of a weapon that starts with the first letter of your last name. That's the second word. To get the sequel number, just write down how many sexual partners you've had.

- Animal
- Weapon
- Partners

eg Puma + Sabre + 2 lovely ladies = Puma Sabre 2



2 Your villain's name

To create the name of your game's evil mastermind, take your favourite brand of jeans as a first name, followed by the name of your least favourite Gladiator as a surname. Easy done.

- Jeans
- Gladiator

(Eg: Jeans - Levi. Gladiator - Wolf. Your villain is Dr. Levi Wolf)

3

Your heroine's name

To get the name of the love interest, take your Gran's full first name (ie Evelyn, not 'Evie', or Winifred, not 'Ratbag') as a first name, then take your star sign as a surname.

■ **Gran's first name**

■ **Star sign**

(Eg: Gran's name - Gwendolen. Star sign - Sagittarius. Your heroine is called Gwendolen Sagittarius)

4

Make your hero

Work out the name of your instant hero by taking the last word of the first bicycle you owned, then the last word from your Dad's aftershave. The bike's the first name, and the shaving lotion's the surname.

■ **First bike**

■ **Dad's aftershave**

Eg. Raleigh Burner + Hai Karate = Burner Karate

5

Sinister setting

To create the name of the sinister island where your game's set, take the colour of your front door, followed by your worst phobia such as dogs, heights, vampires or cheese.

■ **Door colour**

■ **Phobia**

(Eg: Door colour - green. Phobia - afraid of dogs = Green Dog Island)

6

Your weapons

To figure out the name of your weapon, just take the kind of mobile phone you have, and write it backwards (if you don't have one, your mate's will do). That's the name of the gun. To get the model number, just write your initials, followed by your age.

■ **Mobile phone**

■ **Initial + Age**

(Eg. Make of phone - Nokia spelt backwards is Aikon. Initials plus age make the serial number RW-25. The gun's name is Aikon RW-25)

Done it? Then make us laugh too

Reckon your game name, hero, toty, gun and diabolical villain names are the bollocks? Drop us a line at the usual address. We'll grab the best one that comes out of the postbag, and force our suffering design people to rustle up a cover for it in the next available issue.



MAKE METAL GEAR SOLID 2 IN 5 MINUTES!

It takes developers years and millions of pounds to create a game. But using the PlayStation Plus DIY Game-O-Matic kit here, you could do the same in less time than it takes to make a cuppa

POWER-UP!

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ON SALE AUGUST 21

Rated

WE TEST AND SCORE EVERY NEW PLAYSTATION GAME THIS MONTH

We promise that every game and every product here has been tested by us. We're 100% independent: we don't take bribes, we don't worry about what our advertisers think, we don't hype games and we never bullshit you. We always tell you what we really think about a game, so you can trust us when you rent or buy...

Speed Freaks: super-fast mutant racing!

HOW WE RATE STUFF	
0-50%	Total toss
51-60%	Just toss
61-70%	Only okay
71-80%	Good, not great
81-90%	Almost classic
91-100%	Essential play
 Rent it	 Winner
Good game, but maybe a bit limited, not worth buying	A great game (91% plus) you've just got to play
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plus The Knowledge

Do not buy a game until you read the low-down in this guide to every game released PLUS! News on PlayStation price-cut, games on the cheap and the best racing games. Starts p87

RATED THIS MONTH

- p68** **FA Premier League Stars**
More footy from the guys who make FIFA

p70 **Sled Storm**
Awesome four-player racing on SnoCats

p71 **Kurushi Final**
Brain-bursting block puzzler

p72 **Speed Freaks**
Thrill-a-minute cartoon tyre burner

p74 **G-Police 2**
Kick criminal ass in this sci-fi blaster

p75 **Kagaro Deception 2**
Build dungeons, lay traps, kill heroes!

- p76** **Point Blank 2**
The best lightgun game EVER

p77 **Um Jammer Lammy**
Stairway to 'Station heaven

p78 **Chessmaster 2**
Warning! Grand Masters only!

p78 **Fisherman's Bait**
Have you got the tackle for this?

p80 **Resident Evil 2 Platinum**
Horror stunner for 20 notes

Knowledge: updated every month

All Games Rated between 7/10 & 10/10

The best game

FA PREMIER LEAGUE STARS

It sure as hell isn't Premier League material, and there's no way it's a star. Oops.

Another footy game. Great. Who needs it when you've got FIFA and ISS Pro 98? You don't. This one's got all the latest Premiership signed and star players. Trouble is, it's just not fun to play. And it looks rubbish. Oh dear...

The selling point

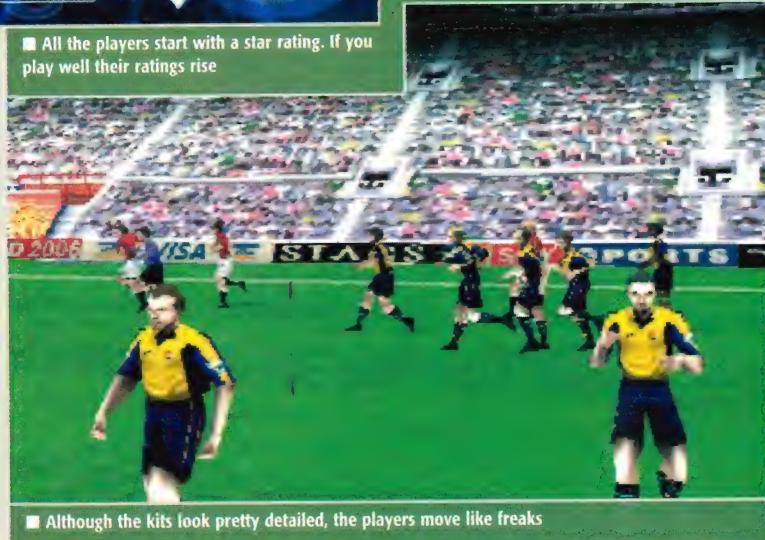
The selling point of Premier League STARS is the, um, STARS concept. You're awarded stars according to your team's performance. These can be used to improve players skills, buy new players or create a team of your own. The tailor-made team can then be saved onto a memory card and taken round your mate's for a spot of one-upmanship. A top idea in our opinion.



All the players start with a star rating. If you play well their ratings rise



The player's fitness levels are displayed when they've got possession of the ball



Although the kits look pretty detailed, the players move like freaks

Jerky

FA Premier League STARS suffers from what we'll call 'camera judder'. Every slight movement of the ball is mimicked by the camera following the action. Therefore, if you're having a right old midfield ding-dong the view slams around, making it a nightmare to watch. The player animation's trashy too, so all in all it doesn't look too hot.



As the ball pings around the midfield, so does the camera. Not a good thing



The player's look like apes when they're running with the ball. God knows why

Doppleganger

Our main beef with this game is it's virtually identical to FIFA 99. OK, it's no surprise because it's by the same blokes. But if you've already got FIFA 99 then you don't really need this. It's got updated players, sure, but at the end of the day it's a simplified version of the game you've already got. Our advice is to wait for FIFA 2000 instead.



This is FIFA 99...



And this is Premier League Stars



Not much difference, huh?

Control stuff

The control system's pretty cool, mainly because it's dead easy to pick up and get a half decent game going without too much brain ache. And once you've got the basics sorted, it doesn't take too long to get onto special moves like flick ons and dummies.



With a little practise you can do little flicks like this



Try a quick one-two

Grass skating

Like most FIFA games the players skate along the grass rather than run realistically. They look stupid when they run too. There's also a few faults in the gameplay which get on our nerves. It's difficult to pass into space and therefore the game never really flows smoothly. It's a shame because the control system is really rather cool.



■ Player's don't run realistically on the pitch, they glide



■ Hopefully the game'll liven up when the players get on the pitch



■ Rather than passing sweetly in to space, you've got to wait for possession before you make your run



■ This makes the game slow and jerky



■ Player animation isn't great

What we don't like

Ridiculous red card frenzy

The best footy games have got a decent balance of realism and instant action. Most important though is the tackling - in real football you'll run up a stack of red cards unless you're careful. Videogames should be more forgiving, though. You should be able to get away with the odd late tackle, but there's no chance here 'cos refs in this game are evil. Red cards aplenty? You got it.



■ If you press L1 you commit a foul



■ Cards are given out like there's no tomorrow

Full of nothing

OK, we know it's based on the Premier League but they're the only teams you get here. No lower divisions, nothing. You can't compete in the FA Cup or other real-life trophies either, although there are a handful of made up competition to enter. We don't think it's enough though, especially when you consider the options crammed in stuff like FIFA.



■ This game only has Premier League teams. No good if you support Norwich then



■ You're sorted if you're Gunner, otherwise you might be disappointed

A simplified version of FIFA which just doesn't hack it with the big boys. The STARS system is cool and the control system works well, but it's just not fun to play. Rich

PlayStation
plus

RATED 79%

SLED STORM

Hit the slopes with 400 horsepower sitting snug between you and your skis

Just when you thought 'Station racers' were getting a bit samey, along comes another must-have slice of class to dent your bank account. Big jumps, hardcore tracks, high speeds and a polished four-player mode. Pure class.

What we like

Cool as der cucumber

What's really going to blow you away here is the four-player split screen mode. It moves at a fair old lick, the handling's as spot on as in one-player, and it even looks pretty good.

But the reason it's so sweet is the short cuts and secret routes. Just when you think you're in the lead, your mate nips down a hidden canyon and blasts into the lead, leaving you churning up powder in a desperate last-ditch attempt to take the chequered flag. Laugh-a-minute stuff, no question.



■ People going in and out of secret bits. Class



■ Sting your mates by pulling off big jumps and taking short cuts.

Races

You choose between Snocross or open mountain courses and head out onto the powder to find out who's boss. The open mountain circuits are where the game really takes off: ultra-winding, cliffy courses crammed with secret routes that'll test your snowmobile to the limit. Nasty hairpins along the edge of a cliff? Have two of 'em.



■ The Snocross courses are OK but dull compared to the open mountain circuits



■ There's huge drops all over the open mountain courses, so expect mucho fun

Secrets

The thing that really spics up the courses is the secret bits. On about half the corners, if you manage to scoot across a little outcrop or jump at just the right angle, you can get to short cuts that'll whack huge amounts off your lap time.



■ Short cuts



■ Amaze your chums! Annoy your enemies!

■ Hard left over the jump!

Handling

The handling here is right on the money. With most racers where snow's involved, it feels like you're racing on cotton wool or sheet ice, not snow. Here, there's a real sense that you're tanking it over various different depths of fluffy snow, especially in the way your snowmobile splashes down after a big drop. Very tasty.



■ The way the snowmobiles jerk and bounce around is dead cool



■ They bounce off the walls just right



■ Alter your angle in flight for a perfect landing, otherwise you'll go flying

Jump, he say

The jumps, general grinding along walls and falling off bits here rank among the coolest stunt action to be had on the 'Station. Every track'll have you feeling like you're hanging onto your snowmobile by the skin of your teeth. Until, of course, you fall off.



■ The snocross courses have some classy stunts



■ A lot of the secret bits can only be reached by jumping off daunting ledges. Got the bottle for it?

Ice T-racks

The later tracks are pure class. Once you're a couple of races into the open mountain championship, there's so many secret bits and alternate routes you'll be going 'Christ, it's a maze!' for the first few goes. Practise a touch, though, and you'll be zipping in and out of shortcuts like a real pro.



■ Take all sorts of devious routes to win



■ Use alternate routes to outflank your mates

Winner! An absolute belter. The one-player's a great laugh thanks to smart circuits, but the four-player'll blow you away. Buy one now. You know you want to. Rob

PlayStation
plus

RATED 91%

■ OUT SEPTEMBER ■ BY SONY ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

KURUSHI FINAL

Puzzle game that'll boost paracetamol sales a hundredfold

This is the Magnus Magnusson of puzzle games. It's the sequel to last year's brain-busting block-based puzzler Kurushi, and they've changed the setting from 'gentle heat' to 'deep fry'. Brace yourselves. This is going to hurt.

So what's this then?

The idea's simple. You stand on a huge block floating in space. The blocks on the same level as you start rolling towards you. By dropping markers you can blow out blocks. Hit a green block and nine blow up at once. Hit a black one and the shelf you stand on drops off into space. Blow out all the blocks and you win.



My brain is melting

The first Kurushi was oddly relaxing to play. Pop blocks, run back, pop more. This one starts off like that. Then about five levels in, things really start to hurt. The idea is that these are levels for people who mastered Kurushi 1. And they're not kidding. Unless you've got a four-figure IQ you'll be crying real tears within an hour of turning it on. Be warned.



Fun but not in the same league as Puzzle Fighter or Kula World. The problem is these levels are so hard. Unless you're a closet Einstein, steer well clear of this 'un. Rob

PlayStation
plus

RATED 79%

SPEED FREAKS

This wacky racer's got speed, spins and psychedelic weirdness to go. Way cool!

Not some drugged-up nutter who spends hours on end listening to techno with his head next to the speaker. Nope, this a laugh-a-minute racer with cute characters, nippy karts and a stack of weapons and power-ups. Let's burn it!

The spin

Forget the super-realistic racing games on the market. This tyre-burner's all about fun - in fact the only bit you'll want to take seriously is its full-on gameplay. You play as one of six kids, each with a different racing style. The aim? Use every trick in the book to win races.



■ Meet bad boys Buster & Wedgie



■ This is Tempest, a bit of a problem child



■ Brains is the swot

What a stunner

This game looks goyush. The tracks look brilliant, jammed with loads of detail and bursting with colour. The karts are stylish too, if a bit kiddy. But if you can put up with its playground graphics, you'll dig its racing thrills.



■ Resist the temptation to stare at the lush scenery while you're racing. It's not easy

Tougher than you think

Don't for a moment think that Speed Freaks is an easy-peasy, just-for-kids effort. Although the courses look like a Saturday morning cartoon, it's dead challenging and brimming with excitement. You've got to be demon driver in this game, otherwise you'll crash and burn.



■ Avoid the molten lava at all costs



■ Don't miss the power-ups



■ The shoulder buttons give you a tighter turn



■ Turbo boost: not good on corners

Multiplayer thrash out

Nothing gets us gushing like a spot of decent multiplayer fun. There's something oh-so-satisfying about locking horns with three mates. Speed Freaks has a four-player mode, and although it's not quite as fast as the one-player game, it's still good fun. It's made all the better by the power-ups used to cane the other karts which are dotted all over each course. As well as a tournament mode, there's also a time attack mode so you can get some practise in.



■ Two-player is fast enough to raise the pulse



■ Some of the detail is lost for the sake of speed, but the tracks still look OK

Power-ups

There's more to this racer than foot to the floor burn-ups. There are loads of weapons to play around with, such as rockets and mines. Slime sends the chasing pack spinning out of control while the shockwave robs opponents of their weapons and stops 'em in their tracks. Don't expect lakes of blood though, this is all good clean fun.



■ Dropping bombs takes care of other racers



■ Keep a bit of energy in your speed bar: you can use this to recover from crashes



■ The shockwave looks wicked and causes loads of damage

Courses

There are 12 courses to romp around plus three head-to-head boss races. They're divided into easy, hard and pro. All the courses have sly short cuts, perfect for putting one over your opponents, but some are pretty tricky to take so get some practice in.



■ This track hasn't got many power-ups so getting the right racing line is all important

It looks the business, has plenty of tracks and is a decent one-player challenge. The multiplayer's a bit slow but it's still great for fun up to four players. Rich

PlayStation

RATED 89%

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G-POLICE 2

The chopper coppers of the dark future bust back in a storm of high explosive.

The 'Station shoot 'em up with more knobs on than any other returns for another blast. Bring brightly coloured death to the dark streets of Jupiter's moon as a horde of new toolled-up crims take on the jet-fuelled meatwagons of the sky...

Not on my manor

The idea's this: it's corporate war up there on Jupiter's moon and things are getting ugly. The G-Police are the only people who can restore order. What that means for you is taking on mission after mission of increasingly tough shoot outs with Jupiterian gangsters, protecting things, ferrying things to places and generally upholding the letter of the law. Easy life.



■ The corporation war was won in G-POLICE 1



■ But the war against crime is just starting



■ It's back to work for the Government Police

And those weapons of justice

What's cool here is that you've got a wide range of weapons, particularly in the later missions, and you need to be really on the ball to manage your limited stocks of ammo. Big laser-guided missiles are just dandy for a gunship at the end of the level, but waste 'em on a dump truck early on and you're in big trouble when the shit really hits the fan.



■ Laser-guided missiles. For big things



■ Cannon. Useful against the small fighters at the start of the level



■ Lasers. For maximum death and destruction



■ I'm gonna bust your ass for parking on that double yellow...

What we like

Scarper! It's the coppers!



■ A display more complicated than a jumbo's



■ Stay in radio contact with your homeboys

Coolness game-wise comes in many forms: here it's down to the glacial sci-fi atmos that drips off every part of the game. Icy techno and drum 'n' bass rocks your skull as you zoom through Blade Runner-esque techdomes, watching computerised visual overlays and hearing the crackle of your communications unit. Very cyber.



■ The soundtrack adds to the atmos

What we don't like

Dis one is a warning

Although this G-Police 2's a cool customer, there's cracks in the icing. The game can't handle loads of detail so everything from the middle distance out is presented as wire boxes. Also, the gameplay can get just a teeny bit repetitive.



■ You'll tire of doing dogfight after dogfight



■ There's plenty of similar enemies too

So what does it do?

Each mission is boiled down into a few objectives, which you're told one at a time by a mission co-ordinator. You have to fly places, pick up things, tell other units what to do, scan things and protect things. Oh, and kill people. Lots.



■ Protect the convoy from marauding gangsters

New an' shiny

Since it's similar to the first G-Police it's got the same limitations, like tricky controls and graphics disappearing in the distance. But there's some really nice new touches: the new vehicles are cool and the ground missions add a whole new flavour.



■ Pilot either the chopper, a tank or a robot



■ The gameplay's still pretty much the same

Sometimes the samey dogfights get a touch irritating, and the visuals aren't all they could be. Still, this is a finely tuned shooter, with classy sci-fi atmos to go. Rob

PlayStation
plus

RATED 83%

■ OUT NOW ■ BY VIRGIN ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

KAGERO DECEPTION 2

Cod-gothic dungeon game brimming with blood and booby traps. Oh, and boredom...

Urk in darkness, luring swashbuckling adventurers to spiky deaths in hideous combination traps you set up in your dungeon. Sadly, being the master of a grim underground Castle of Doom isn't all it's cracked up to be. Bugger.

What's happening?

You're a human slave of the scheming blue-skinned Timenoids, using cunning to bring death to unwary fellow humans as they wander round your castle. The way it plays is this: you set up three traps in each room out of a menu system, then run around in a live-action 3D mode, trying to get people to walk onto the right bit, then lighting the fuse and standing well back. Dull? You betcha!



■ You set up your traps on this grid



■ When someone steps on the right bit... blam!

Why it's crap

Each time you polish off one set of adventurers, you get 'Ark' points used to build more traps. Then more adventurers come along and you test drive your new Traps o' Death on them. Repeat. Sadly, all the traps are pretty samey, using them isn't any fun whatsoever, the graphics are pitiful, and the intelligence of the adventurers is so low it seems a bit unfair to kill them. Oh, and it's so slow it hurts. Don't buy this game. Just don't.



■ The role-playing bits are confused and crap



■ The bits in the dungeon are just annoying



■ Naff all variety in the traps



■ Hang on, where's the fun?

It plays just like a slow, dull fighting game where you can only attack in a couple of annoyingly specific places. The traps are limited, the people are stupid and it's ugly. Ugh. Rob

PlayStation
plus

RATED 45%

POINT BLANK 2

Super sharp shooting inna Wholesome Family Fun stylee. Wicked? You betcha!

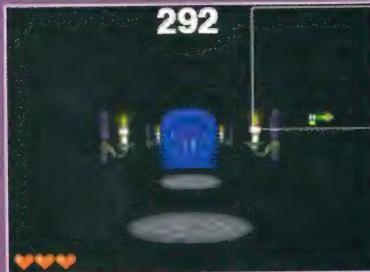
Shear sheep with a revolver. Destroy falling cars with a flurry of shots. Save funny-hatted explorers from swarms of vultures. Yup, it's time to unholster your trusty lightgun for part two of the 'Stations best and most surreal gun game.

Bullet for you!

You go through level after level of increasingly nutty target practice challenges, either as a one-player arcade blastfest where it's just one level then the next, or in the 'story' mode where they put boring exploring bits in between the levels. If you're looking to hit Fun Factor Ten, the two player's where it's at.



■ Arcade mode's just a sequence of target practice blast 'em ups, but it's still great



■ Story mode. Now with added naff inbetween bits. Stick to the arcade mode



■ Two-player. Shoot fast. Shoot straight. Shoot first... y'know the score

Two up

The one-player arcade's a laugh, but the two player's a one-go-and-you're-hooked gameplay delicacy that every self-respecting gamehead should have a shot at. It's the same levels as the one-player, but whoever gets the most hits wins. The only major problem is you need two lightguns to play and that means mucho moolah.



■ He who shoots fastest wins. Simple



■ Oi! Hands off that autofire button, dillweed!

Challenges

A lot of the challenges are more tricky than the ones in the first Point Blank, but practise hard and you'll be wowing your mates with dead-eye shots in no time.



■ Match the target with the target in the box



■ Shoot the house 30 times in ten seconds



■ Only shoot the criminals carrying guns



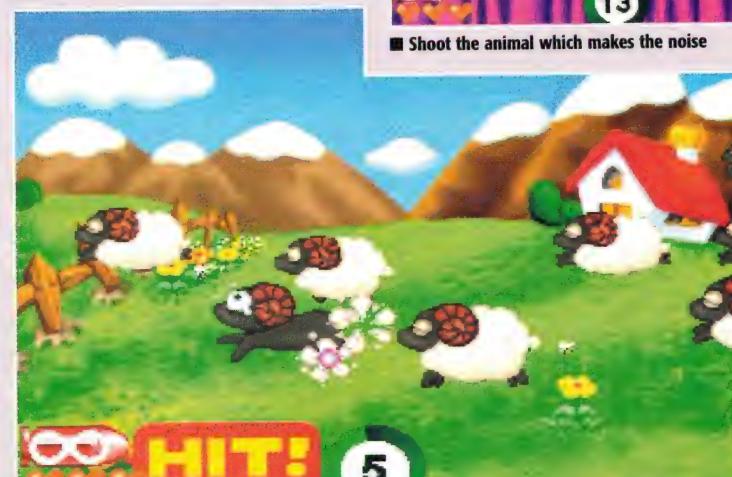
■ Shoot the right balls to score a 'house'



■ Shoot the numbers in ascending order



■ Shoot the animal which makes the noise



■ Shear all the wool off the sheep while they run past. Great for a laugh



More tricky than the first, but a lot more varied. If you liked the first, you'll love this. If you ain't played the first one, buy them both. Like, now. Rob

PlayStation^{plus}

RATED 92%

UM JAMMER LAMMY

Trade guitar licks, listen to hilarious lyrics, watch stoopid visuals. Rawk!

Like its cult predecessor Parappa the Rapper, Um Jammer Lammy is the product of a warped Japanese karaoke culture. Except this time around you provide guitar licks to songs with the most bizarre lyrics. Ever. Let's jam...

Co-ordination alert

The basic idea is there'll be a song playing and you've got to hit the buttons in time to the music. Sounds simple enough but the button combos are complex and you need spot-on timing to get it right. Unless you've got über co-ordination your slick licks will sound like a straggled cat. Stick with it though and you could be the next rock god.



■ You've got to follow the series of buttons at the top of the screen



■ The gauge at the bottom left shows how well you're playing. You're doing OK at the mo

Many styles

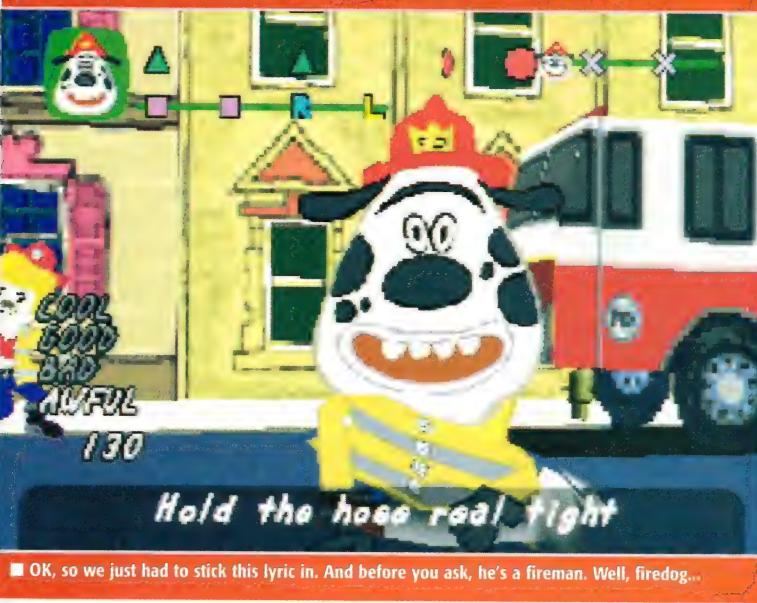
For most of the game you play as Lammy, the game's red-haired heroine. Lammy gets to showcase her guitar skills to every type of axe music you can imagine. Get down to rock, funk and country and western, plus other stuff you usually find under 'weird shit' in HMV. As you progress you'll open up other characters.



■ The scenes before you play are cool



■ Bloody hell, how hard is that riff?



■ OK, so we just had to stick this lyric in. And before you ask, he's a fireman. Well, firedog...

Bum notes mean death

This game is bizarre. The location you jam in is affected by how well you play - string some sweet riffs together and everything's fine, but hit a couple of bum notes and everything goes pear-shaped. Tower blocks crash and burn, planes drop out of the sky, trees fall on your head... this guitar playing lark's dangerous unless you've got Noel Gallagher's axe skills.



■ Fluff your notes then it's curtains



■ Not recommended for those with stage fright



■ Things get very complicated later on, so get to know your buttons

Trading licks

One of the coolest features is the two-player mode. In this you trade licks with a mate and generally behave like a greasy haired metallica. You might not dig the idea but give it a chance - there's a bit of Metallica in everyone...



■ It's a test of nerves playing against a mate



■ You jammin' good, Jammer

Weird 'n' wacky. The music's catchy as hell, the lyrics are hilarious and the visuals are way out. It's unlike any other game you've played though, so rent it first. Rich

PlayStation
plus

RATED 85%

■ OUT NOW ■ BY MINDSCAPE ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1-2
 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

CHESSMASTER 2

The Chessmaster returns to our screens with more high-adrenalin chess thrills.

It's chess, but rather than having the satisfaction of playing your mates, you get the sheer horror of being beaten in three minutes flat by a little grey box. Yup, the dreaded Chessmaster's back in town, and he's got even better at chess.

So what's this then?

Well, it's chess. That board game with the horses and bishop hats. Here, you get to play it against 'Station simulations of a whole lot of past masters, a few fictional chess maestros and the awesome bearded Chessmaster himself. All of them are much, much better than us. Even the bad ones. It's a sad state of affairs.



■ That classic chess gameplay in full



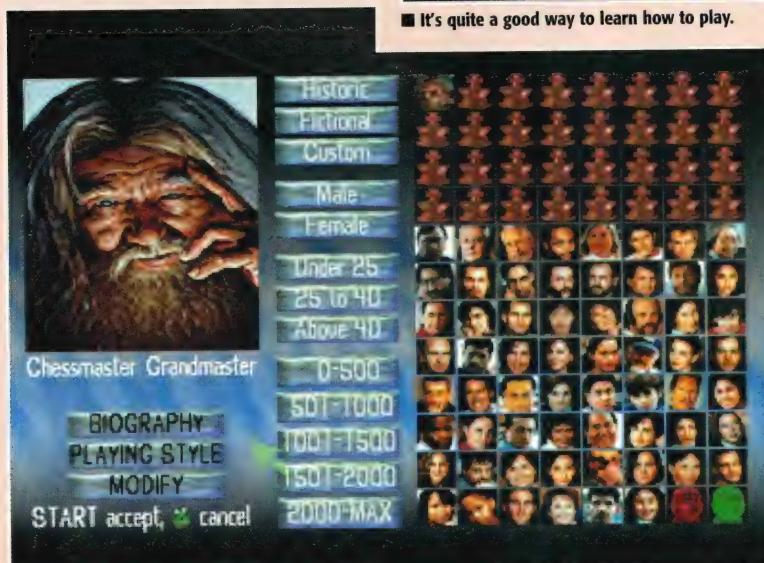
■ Pawn to King four. And other chess jargon

Chess is more

There's all the modes you expect, with clock chess, free chess, tournament chess. You can set the difficulty level to suit yourself. And if you can be bothered putting in the hours, this'll train you up to Grandmaster level. Or so the box tells us. We couldn't be bothered putting in the hours. But rest assured, it really is VERY good at chess. Depressingly good, in fact.



■ It's quite a good way to learn how to play.



■ The bearded Chessmaster is ridiculously good at chess. Taking him on is bad for your self-esteem

This isn't a pretty game to look at. It won't make your 'Station overload with sheer graphical flash, but it does play chess. And much better than us all. Rob

PlayStation
plus
RATED 70%

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FISHERMAN'S BAIT

If you want fishing, you've - wait for it - come to the right plaice. Sorry.

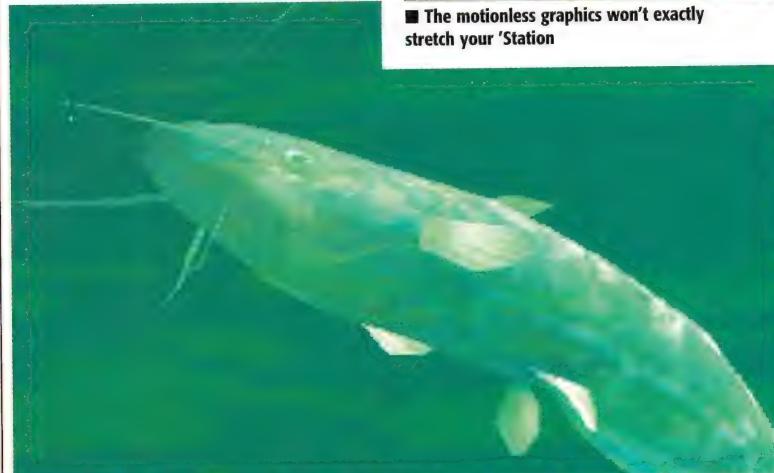
Scope where the big fish are lurking, cast out your bait, wait for a bite and start bashing buttons to hook a big one. Yup, it's more game weirdness from our chums in the Land of the Rising Sun. Oddly, it's kind of fun.

What you do

You choose your lure, then use a golf game-style power bar to cast your hook out at a picture postcard of an American lake with the dark shadows of fish lurking beneath the surface. Then you hammer buttons to reel the gits in. And believe us, if the fish is big enough to be worth catching, it won't be easy to get it out on dry land.



■ The motionless graphics won't exactly stretch your 'Station



■ The button-bashing gameplay's pretty basic, but it's a laugh all the same

Two player

The game's pretty lame in one-player, but in two-player it's kind of like those Olympics games where you batter buttons to win. You'll be sitting there, really hurting yourself as you try and land a monster bass, only to discover what you've got's a two-inch catfish. High comedy. Especially when it's your mate that's ballsed it up.



■ In one-player, it's pretty dull



■ Against a mate, though, it's a laugh

Rent it More of an interesting curiosity than a must-have game, but it's a real laugh in the two-player mode. Rent it and check it out. Rob

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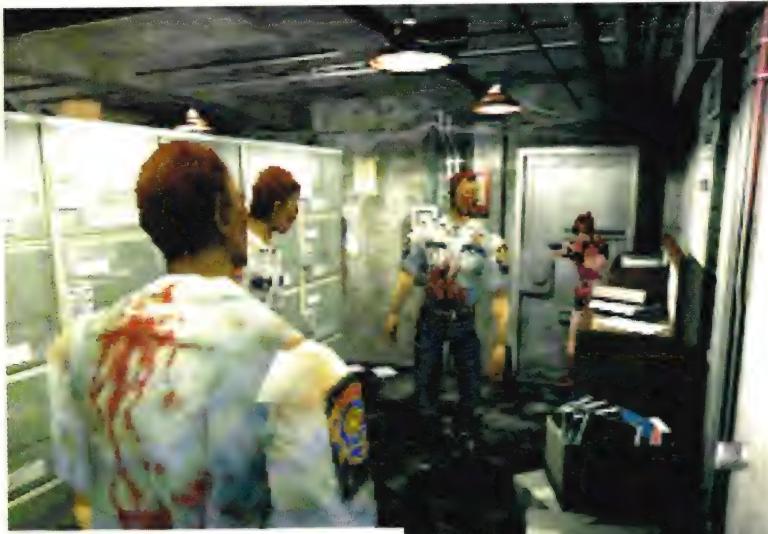
RESIDENT EVIL 2

Another good month in Platinumland as the 'Station's flagship horror game goes cheap.

Another golden great goes Platinum. If you missed out on this hair-raising slice of gore and guts last time round, more fool you. If you miss out now it's twenty quid, you're barking mad. Take our word for it. Games just don't get better than this.

Take me down to Raccoon City

In the first Res Evil, zombies and other assorted horror film nasties like giant spiders had taken over a house. Now they've taken over an entire town. You're stuck in the middle of it with disturbingly few bullets in your revolver. It's up to you to save the day.



■ You've got to wander around, find objects



■ There's plenty talking to be doing



■ Most of the time it's kill or be killed

Zombie flesh eaters

We'll make no bones about it. What's cool here is the constant, sickening violence. As you get further into the game, you'll get bigger and bigger guns: you'll be shearing zombies' heads off with a machine gun, cutting them in half with shotgun blasts and reducing them to strawberry jam with a Magnum.



■ Headshots. The only way to stop 'em



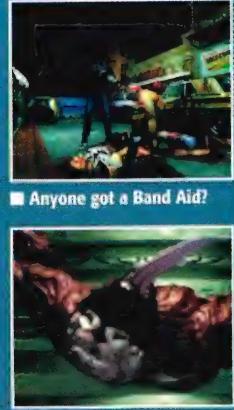
■ These suckers take a lot of lead

Cannibal holocaust

It doesn't feel like a game. The 'Jesus-is-it's-behind-me' atmosphere generated here gives the feel of a classy horror flick all the way through. You never have enough ammo. It's always dark. It's always quiet. And we're not going to give anything away, but there's a few set piece frights in there which'll have even the toughest of you hitting the ceiling.



■ Huge things pursue you all the time. Luckily you're toolled up



■ Girls love this guy

Puzzles

There's plenty of fighting in here, but a lot of the game is about being smart enough to get through the sequence of puzzles. You'll pick up plenty of odd objects as you go through the game. Figuring out how to use them will get you into new areas, help you deal with threats and bring you closer to solving the central mystery of Raccoon City. Most of the puzzles aren't too tricky though, so it's not gonna bust your brain.



■ You'll have to solve plenty of object puzzles



■ None of the puzzles are really hard so you won't get stuck on one bit for ages



Time's been kind to Res 2. It looks amazing, the gameplay's rock-solid and it's stuffed with really twisted, disgusting violence. Nice. Rob



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	BLOODY ROAR 2	BLOODY ROAR 2	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 16	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	B-MOVIE	B-MOVIE	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 17	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BOMBERMAN FANTASY RACING	BOMBERMAN FANTASY RACING	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 18	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BOMBERMAN WORLD	BOMBERMAN WORLD	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 19	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BREATH OF FIRE 3	BREATH OF FIRE 3	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 20	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BRIAN LARA CRICKET	BRIAN LARA CRICKET	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 21	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BUBBLE BOBBLE	BUBBLE BOBBLE	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 22	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BUGS BUNNY LOST IN TIME	BUGS BUNNY LOST IN TIME	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 23	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BUG'S LIFE (DISNEY)	BUG'S LIFE (DISNEY)	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 24	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BURNING ROAD	BURNING ROAD	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 25	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BUSHIDO BLADE	BUSHIDO BLADE	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 26	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BUST A GROOVE	BUST A GROOVE	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 27	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BUST A MOVE 2	BUST A MOVE 2	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 28	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BUST A MOVE 3	BUST A MOVE 3	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 29	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	BUST A MOVE 4	BUST A MOVE 4	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 30	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CAPCOM GENERATIONS	CAPCOM GENERATIONS	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOL BOARDERS 31	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	COOLBOARDERS 3	COOLBOARDERS 3	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COOLBOARDERS 32	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 3	CRASH BANDICOOT 3	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 33	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 4	CRASH BANDICOOT 4	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 34	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 5	CRASH BANDICOOT 5	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 35	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 6	CRASH BANDICOOT 6	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 36	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 7	CRASH BANDICOOT 7	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 37	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 8	CRASH BANDICOOT 8	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 38	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 9	CRASH BANDICOOT 9	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 39	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 10	CRASH BANDICOOT 10	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 40	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 11	CRASH BANDICOOT 11	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 41	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 12	CRASH BANDICOOT 12	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 42	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 13	CRASH BANDICOOT 13	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 43	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 14	CRASH BANDICOOT 14	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 44	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 15	CRASH BANDICOOT 15	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 45	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 16	CRASH BANDICOOT 16	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 46	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 17	CRASH BANDICOOT 17	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 47	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 18	CRASH BANDICOOT 18	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 48	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 19	CRASH BANDICOOT 19	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 49	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 20	CRASH BANDICOOT 20	CMD & CNT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	COMBAT	CRASH BANDICOOT 50	DESTRUCTION DERBY							
	CRASH BANDICOOT 21	CRASH BANDICOOT 21</td														

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Your essential guide to every PlayStation game and all the extra gear...

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HOW WE RATE STUFF

91-100%	Essential play
81-90%	Almost classic
71-80%	Good, not great
61-70%	Only okay
51-60%	Just toss
0-50%	Total toss



A great game
(91% plus) you've
just got to play.



Top PlayStation
gear to boost
your gameplay.

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renting.
Don't buy it!



This game is
crap. Avoid
like the plague



plus

EASY TO USE GUIDE

Here's how your first and best easy-to-use guide to every PlayStation game out there works:

updated every month

All Games Rated between 71%-100%

best games

■ It's alphabetical

No time-wasting as you look for your fave game

■ It's all scored

See ratings key above

■ Play with mates?

Is it a one-player or great with mates?

■ What it costs

The recommended retail price, but you could find it cheaper

■ Extra Information

We'll tell you exactly what we think of each game, plus we'll point out any gadgets it uses such as the link-up or multitap. Most games work with the Dual Shock pad and memory card but we'll let you know if it uses 'em well

p88 Buried treasure

The classic beat 'em ups you might have missed

p89 Four of the best

Why the Ridge Racer series will never die!

p90 New games

Three classic new games that're on the shelves right now

p92 Dual Shocks!

Which games really push that rumbling pad to the limit

p94 Cheat carts

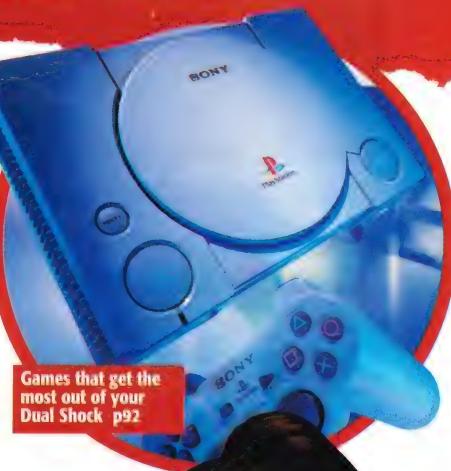
The best cheat cartridges money can buy

p96 Price attack!

Where to shop if you want the best new games for less

p97 Nights in

Top multi-player games for you and your mates



Games that get the most out of your Dual Shock p92



Shops where you can buy the best games for less p96

All games rated between 71%-100%

The best games



Abe's Exoddus **91%**

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Dead playable sequel to the now-cheap Abe's Oddsee. More of the same platform action.



A Bug's Life **70%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Looks nice enough, plays OK. But this explore 'em up based on the Disney film is hardly a showstopper.

Actua Golf **71%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
This older still plays OK but looks tossy compared to newer clubbers. For more options try...

Actua Golf 2 **75%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
It's got some new courses and a fresh lick of paint, but it still plays the same. Not bad, just not great.

Actua Golf 3 **85%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
The best golf game around, we reckon, mainly because it's well realistic when you play with the Dual Shock pad.

Actua Ice Hockey **85%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
Nifty pick-up-'n'-play hockey sim which boasts all the usual teams and moves. Uses multitap.

Actua Soccer 2 **73%**

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4
Better looking than the Platinum original but still not easy to play. Uses multitap and analogue pad.

Actua Soccer 3 **79%**

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4
Better, but still not as flowing or fun as ISS Pro 98. Compatible with multitap.

Actua Tennis **74%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Average to look at but not bad to knock around. Better with the Dual Shock but still no ace.

Aeronauts **73%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Hard-nut convicts battle it out in the skies in this air-based Running Man-style shooter.

Agile Warrior **83%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Aircraft shooty game that's easy to play but gets boring too soon. Still, not that bad.

Air Combat 2 **85%**

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Good-looking flight sim with loadsa missions and a stack of planes to choose from. Use Dual Shock for best results.

Akuji the Heartless **82%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Run around Tomb Raider-style, bagging things with Black Magic. Not enough gore to be great. Uses Dual Shock.

All Star Tennis **73%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Slightly soiled looks don't spoil this quite tasty racket-a-thon. Use Dual Shock pad.

Alone in the Dark **71%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Resident Evil-style horror adventure with trashy graphics and naff all gore. Gameplay's all right, though.

Alundra **75%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Long-winded adventure which looks rubbish but is pretty satisfying if you stick it out. Good for beginners.

Anna K's Smash Court Tennis **85%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4
Excellent tennis game with a picture of the lovely Anna on the cover. Uses a multitap for plenty of players action.

Ape Escape **91%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Only works with the Dual Shock pad, but if you've got one this super-cute platform game is well worth

Apocalypse **88%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Bruce Willis pumps it up in this balls-out sci-fi blaster. It's a bit samey but still brilliant. Dual Shock.

Armoured Core **74%**

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Robot blasting game which is a bit short in one-player but a good laugh against a mate.

Assault **84%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Full-on shoot 'em up where the killing just doesn't stop. Big weapons and even bigger bad guys, we like this.

AVI Evolution Global **73%**

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1
Looks like a yawnsome strategy thang but get into this baby and you'll have fun building empires. Mouse compatible.

Baby Universe **75%**

■ Price £29.99 ■ Players 1
This psychedelic lightshow more a mind-bending experience than a game. Great for late night chill seshes.

Ballblazer Champions **75%**

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Future sport sim where two hover cars must shoot the plasma ball at the opponent's holo-goal. Weird.

Batman & Robin **73%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
A bit like Tomb Raider in Gotham City, this is an ambitious but sadly flawed take on the Batman theme.

Bedlam **78%**

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Tactical robot blaster where you've really gotta use the mouse to get the most out of it.

Big Air **81%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Snowboarding game with lots detail but let down by lengthy loading times and a lack of adrenalain.

Biofreaks **85%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
So it's no Tekken 3, but this thumper's got some wicked moves and some of the coolest effects we've seen, including flying fighters!

B-Movie **78%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Tongue-in-cheek blast 'em up where UFOs invade Earth to go cow rustling. Way, way out there... **Rent it**

Bomberman World **83%**

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-4
Stick in a multitap and this is bombastic blasting for four players. Not so hot as a one-player though.

Breath of Fire III **84%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Cutesy role-playing epic which'll keep you hooked for ages. Bit slow for some, though.

Brian Lara Cricket **88%**

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4
Despite its fiddly control system, this cricket sim'll knock you for six. Great with Dual Shock pad.

Broken Sword **91%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1
Superb puzzle-solving adventure. (N.B. It also comes bundled with two other games on the Help! pack.) **Rent it**

Broken Sword 2 **91%**

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1
More of the same, but still smart. Guaranteed to frustrate the hell out of you. **Rent it**

Bubble Bobble Pack **84%**

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2
Looks pretty naff but this is well-endowed with gameplay. Serious platform fun for one or two players.

Buggy **75%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Race radio-controlled cars in this fun-for-a-while racer. Handles slightly better with the Dual Shock.

Bushido Blade **83%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Samurai swordfighting game that's too realistic for its own good. Worth a try though.

Bust-a-Groove **88%**

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2
Dance battle game where the winner's the guy who can pull off the smartest breakdance moves. Weird but well good.

Bust-a-Move 3 **85%**

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2
Bubble-bursting puzzle game that's dead easy to play but difficult to put down.

Buried treasure

Beat 'em ups you might have missed



■ Dead or Alive. A scorch

fun. If you're bored of Tekken 3, get your hands on this. But that's not all - the lovely laydees all have massive charlies which bounce around like over-inflated beach balls every time they take a punch. And call us sad, but we kinda like that.

Honourable mention:

Dead or Alive's cool but if you've already got it, go for the ace Bloody Roar 2. All the fun of one-on-one battling plus you get to transform into rabid, ravenous beasts. Choice.

Bloody Roar 2

■ Price: £39.99

■ Players: 1-2

Bash the 'Beast' button to transform into a slavering beast as you batter your mate stupid!



Dead or Alive

■ Price: £39.99

■ Players: 1-2

Hardcore chopsocky action starring kung fu ladies with huge juddering breasts



Bust-a-Move 4

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Way too similar to the others to make it worth splashing the cash for. Try its Platinum predecessor instead.



Cardinal Syn

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Average beat-'em up with swords, slick moves and some monster characters. Works with Dual Shock pad.

Castlevania

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Visually it's no supermodel, but it's a well-stacked platform adventure with a classy musical score.

Circuit Breakers

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Race anything from tiny cars to minute submarines around a load of different courses. Good with multitap and four players.



Civilisation 2

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Get to play God in a historical setting. A bit like Sim City if you know what we mean. Strange, but really good.

Colony Wars

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Space-based shooter with sweet graphics and pulse-pumping gameplay. A bit samey for some.

Colony Wars Vengeance

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Better sequel with planet-based battles as well as space dogfights. Use Dual Shock for best results.

Command & Conquer: Red Alert

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Control your tiny army and conquer worlds in this neat strategy thang. Uses mouse and link-up.

Command & Conquer: Retaliation

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Exactly the same to play, but with new missions, vehicles and cranked-up difficulty levels. Two-player.

Constructor

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Play God in this building site sim that's a lot more fun than it sounds. Easier to play with mouse.

Contra: Legacy of War

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Solid blasting action for one or two kitted-out soldiers ready to save the world. 3D mode is great with glasses supplied.

Cool Boarders

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

The original snowboarding thrash is still fun to play, but lack of other racers makes it a bit dull.

Cool Boarders 3

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

OK follow-up which doesn't improve on the one before, so what's the point? Uses Dual Shock.

Crash Bandicoot 3

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

A great laff for all, with loads of different gameplay styles and some lovely graphics. Much too short though. Dual Shock compatible.

Crime Killer

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Futuristic cops 'n' robbers mix of racing and shooting. Good fun for a bit, but then gets boring. Works with Dual Shock.

Croc 2

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Cutey-pie platforming action with a cuddly crocodile. Not as puke-making as it sounds but still let down by poor controls.

Crusader: No Remorse

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Shoot loads, explore like crazy and bag a load of bad guys. OKish lone soldier 'em up.

D

Dark Forces

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Star Wars first-person blast which looks old skool but plays OK. The best bit? Zapping stormtroopers.

Forget the rest, these are the best

The 'Station's best series of racers? You betcha!



Ridge Racer

■ Price: £19.99

■ Players: 1

Decent enough when it launched in 1995 but the graphics look pretty crap now. Still, the tracks are pure class and it plays well.

■ Rated: Ford Fiesta



Revolution

■ Price: £19.99

■ Players: 1-2

Cool in two-player link-up and the price is right. But it's showing its age these days, so if you're an eye candy junkie, avoid.

■ Rated: Vauxhall Astra



Rage Racer

■ Price: Up to £39.99

■ Players: 1

Different enough from Type 4 to be worth buying, and the tracks are even better. Shop around and you'll be able to pick it up cheap.

■ Rated: BMW Z3



Ridge Racer Type 4

■ Price: £39.99

■ Players: 1-2

The best graphics in any PlayStation racing game plus supreme playability. Split-screen two-player too. Awesome! Go get it!

■ Rated: McLaren F1

Darklight Conflict

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

3D space game delivers stunning gameplay and slick visuals. Difficult to master so watch out.

Darkstalkers 3

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

The kind of Japanese beat-'em up only a mother could really love. And with so many other doozies available, are you gonna bother?

Dead Ball Zone

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Hyper-violent future sports game with loadsa blood-spilling and chain-saws. Fast and frantic.

Dead or Alive

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Excellent fist-fighting monster boasts super-crisp graphics and well-stocked female fighters. Result!

Deathtrap Dungeon

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Tomb Raider-style adventure with scantily clad heroine, loads of big monsters and muchos sword swinging.

Descent

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Doom in spaceships. Fly around underground tunnels, shooting stuff. Not bad, but better in link-up two-player mode.

Descent II

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Few improvements so why bother? If anything this is slower than the first one. Doh!

Devil Dice

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Simple but addictive puzzler that'll keep you coming back for more. And more...

Diablo

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Pretty good adventuring epic that's not too spoddy. You've gotta stick it out to get the best from this one.

Disruptor

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Slick-looking but ultimately yawnsome first-person fire fest. Brimming with tasty weapons though.

Diver's Dream

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Go on a search for buried treasure beneath the sea. Fun but flawed. Approach with care, we say...

Driver

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Awesome mafia driving game. Imagine a cross between Grand Theft Auto and Gran Turismo.

Felicity

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Swim through underwater worlds to build up library of samples, then mix dance tunes. Odd.

FIFA 99

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8

Fairly standard footy game crammed with league teams and all the players. Look OK, doesn't play too hot.

The Fifth Element

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Likeable adventure based on the sci-fi smash. Lacks the pizazz to make it a true classic.

Final Doom

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Ultra-hard follow-up with 30 new levels but the same old weapons. Still, a good link-up laugh.

Fluid

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Swim through underwater worlds to build up library of samples, then mix dance tunes. Odd.

Formula Karts

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Kart racer that's fast, fun 'n' furious. The tracks are bit short, but otherwise an engine-revving laff.

Forsaken

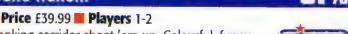
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Zip through tight corridors, straddled on a jet bike. The aim: shoot everything in sight. Cool. Uses Dual Shock pad.

Frogger 3D

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

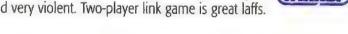
Retro classic given a 3D facelift. Gameplay's simple but still fun, while the graphics look nice enough. Four players with multitap.



Duke Nukem

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Stomping corridor shoot-'em up. Colourful, funny and very violent. Two-player link game is great laffs.



Driver

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Awesome mafia driving game. Imagine a cross between Grand Theft Auto and Gran Turismo.



Felicity

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Frogger 3D

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Retro classic given a 3D facelift. Gameplay's simple but still fun, while the graphics look nice enough. Four players with multitap.

Hard Edge

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

It's a Resident Evil-style adventure with a sci-fi edge and a dash of kung fu just for good measure. Not bad at all.

Heart of Darkness

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Good looking platformer plays like a peach. Puzzle-y bits to chew on too. Presented in widescreen though, which is odd.

Help!

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Broken Sword's great, but Road Rash and Myst ain't so hot. Still, pretty good value.

Herc's Adventures

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Solid gameplay and tons of challenge in fun-to-play cartoon frolics.

Knowledge

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Arcade adventure, Greek Gods style.

Knowledge: new every month

Hercules

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Based on the Disney flick, this coolio looking platform game is fun for a bit. Could've been longer, though.

Impact Racing

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Offbeat racing game mixing Destruction Derby with Mad Max. Not quite as good as it sounds, unfortunately...

ISS Pro 98

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

The best footy bar none. It's easy to play but will grab you by the balls and not let go. Lush.



Jersey Devil

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Looks fantastic but the gameplay's not quite up to scratch. Dodgy camera angles make it hard to play.

Jonah Lomu Rugby

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

Brilliant rugby sim, but the fiddly controls will drive you mad. Worth sticking with...

Jumping Flash

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Well old 3D platformer where you've gotta leap sky-high to win. Nice idea but looking a bit dated.

Jumping Flash 2

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Same thing as before, but not enough levels to keep your appetite satisfied. No fair.



Kensei: Sacred Fist

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Tries hard to be a great beat'em up but doesn't quite succeed. We reckon you're better off with Tekken 3.

KKnD: Krossfire

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

It stands for Kill Kruish and Destroy. Which sounds cool. But this is not as good as you'd think.

Klonoa

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Sickly sweet platform romp which stars a puppy as the main geeza. Nice looking and fun enough to play, but a bit easy.

Kula World

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Bounce a beach ball through weirdo levels to solve puzzles. Odd concept but strangely addictive.

Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Excellent Tomb Raider-style adventure going on here, with lashings of blood and a good plot.

Lemmings

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

It's cheap, addictive as hell but looks bloody awful. Still, we reckon you'll play for ages. Uses Dual Shock.

Little Big Adventure

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Action adventure packed with puzzles and shooty bits. Another case of gameplay over graphics.

Lucky Luke

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

The mix of gameplay styles makes this an interesting if not exciting platformer. Looks a bit kiddish.



Machine Hunter

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Top-down blast where the action never stops. Good fun for both one and two players.

Madden 97

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

If American football floats your boat you could do a lot worse than tackle this baby.

Madden 98

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Better than the first but not by much. More gridiron action than you can shake a stick at.

Madden 99

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

For chrisakes, three games later and naff all has changed. Yeah it's still OK, but we demand more! Uses multitap.

Magic Carpet

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Fly around on your mystic rug, zapping weird creatures with magic. An older but still pretty darn good.

Marvel Super Heroes

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Flattish beat'em up with some H-U-G-E fighters. Animation's not so hot but it plays nice enough.

Marvel Super Heroes vs Street Fighter

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

If you're really into Marvel Super Heroes and REALLY into Street Fighter, this cannae be faulted. The rest of you, approach with care.

Max Power Racing

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

No Gran Turismo beater but still a pedal-to-the-metal road racer. Loadsas cars and tracks to choose from.

MDK

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Interesting shoot 'em up let down badly by patchy graphics. Filled with action though.

MechWarrior 2

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Climb inside a giant-sized robot and trudge into battle. Mixes strategy and shooting to great effect.

MediEvil

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Does slaughering demons pump your pulse? Then tuck into this hack 'n' slash adventure. We like it.



Metal Gear Solid

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Atmospheric, pacy, good-looking and innovative. If only it were a bit longer...

Michael Owen's WLS 99

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

England soccer star endorses top footy game. Looks as sweet and gameplay is finger lickin' good.

Monster Trucks

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Big motors with oversized tyres trash the countryside in this frantic racer. Good dirt churnin' fun for a little while.

Mortal Kombat 3

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

MK fans will love it but the rest of us'll think it's pretty naff. Extra marks for gory finishing moves.

Moto Racer

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Pretty speedy motorbike racer with both tarmac and off-road tracks. A nice change from car games.

Moto Racer 2

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

This is one helluva scorcher. Stacks of tracks and bikes, plus an easy-to-use track editor.

Motorhead

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

So fast it'll make your eyes bleed. Graphics are basic compared to Gran Turismo, but this one still pops our cork.

Motor Toon Grand Prix 2

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Light-hearted racer that's more a laugh than a sim. Great in one player but check out the two-player link-up - it's smart.

Music

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Be the next Fatboy Slim with this dance music creator. Loads of samples and dead easy to use.



Myst

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

One third of the Help! charity pack. Dull-looking adventure that's quite absorbing. Patience is a must for this 'un though.

NHL 98

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-8

Slicker than the previous effort, plus better graphics and all-new teams. And an eight-player mode.



NHL 98

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-8

Slicker than the previous effort, plus better graphics and all-new teams. And an eight-player mode.



NHL Breakaway 98

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-8

If ice hockey's your bag, this ain't bad for a spin, even though it looks and plays like most of the others.

NHL Powerplay 98

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8

A lot of ice, tons of players and a tiny puck. It sounds like every other hockey game and y'know what, it is.

Nightmare Creatures

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Gothic horror game with two heroes hack 'n' slash it against Satan's spawn. Gory and great.

Ninja: Shadow of Darkness

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Chuck throwing stars and hack with your sword in this OKish one-player action 'em up.

Nuclear Strike

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Explosive choppy shooter mixing top-notch blasting with serious strategy. It's a toughie, but you'll dig it.



ODT

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Run around and shoot loads of stuff. Oh, and solve some darn easy puzzles. We don't mind this at all.

Omega Boost

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Fantic space blaster with giant-sized robots and even bigger weapons. Well cool.



Current 'Station winners'

New games that are worth your hard-earned

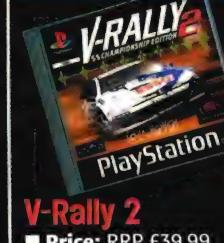


Syphon Filter

■ Price: RRP £34.99

■ Players: 1

It's got stealth, it's got shooting, it's got gizmos. It may not have the instant graphical 'Wow!' factor of Metal Gear Solid, but it'll last you longer. Classic.



V-Rally 2

■ Price: RRP £34.99

■ Players: 1-4

Sensational graphics, slick and realistic controls plus a way cool track creation mode. Rock-solid two and four-player modes are the icing on the cake.



Soul Reaver

■ Price: RRP £39.99

■ Players: 1

If you love Tomb Raider, you'll die for this 3D goth thriller. Huge levels, sickening violence, spot-on swordplay, dark magic and a cool story-line. This one's a corker.

Olympic Soccer 75%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

An old skool soccer game which looks appalling but doesn't play too bad. Not in the same league as ISS Pro though.

One 79%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Good looking ultra-violent platform shooter which would've been awesome if it wasn't for the yawnsome combat.

Overblood 71%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Resident Evil-style adventure which lacks excitement or tension. More action needed, and fast!

Parappa the Rapper 89%

■ Price £29.99 ■ Players 1

Bizarro rapping game when you win by tapping in time with the music, Simon Says style. Offbeat and amusing.

Phat Air Snowboarding 75%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Snowboarding bandwagon-jumper which just doesn't cut the mustard against the other steep slope sliders.

Player Manager Seasons 98/99 71%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Playable enough and it's got all the latest teams, but not a patch on Premier Manager 98.

Pitfall 3D 84%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Very playable platformer which nicks a load of ideas from Indiana Jones. Challenging yet fun.

Packet Fighter 78%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Pint-sized fighters square up against each other in this strangely interesting punch 'em up. One for fanatics only.

Po' Ed 72%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Doombot-style blaster with weird monsters and bizarro weapons. Ever whacked anything with a frying pan? You can now...

Point Blank 92%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Fantastic shooting gallery gun game which really needs a lightgun. The two-player is brilliant.

Pool Hustler 79%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Plenty 'o' ball fun to be had, but strange Yankee rules spoil our fun somewhat.

Populous: The Beginning 85%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Another God game where you build up your little guys and lead 'em into battle. Yeah, a nice little number.

Poy Poy 83%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-4

Using the multitap, up to four players can whup each other's ass by chucking stuff around. The one player game is naff though.

Poy Poy 2 73%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-4

Hang on a sec. This is exactly the same as the first. We demand to know what's going on!

Premier Manager 98 86%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Was the king of the sheepskin coat, but a few major flaws mean it's not quite a classic. Not so for the sequel though...

Premier Manager 99 91%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Similar to the first, but with most of the bugs ironed out. The result's a well-tasty footy management sim.

Pro Pinball: Big Race USA 89%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-4

Bargain-priced pinball sim with only one table, but boy is it a corker. Stacks of secrets and bonuses to play with.

Pro Pinball: The Web 89%

■ Price £24.99 ■ Players 1-4

The first in the Pro Pinball series. A class table with tons of sub-games ensures this is a definite must-have.

Pro Pinball: Timeshock! 89%

■ Price £24.99 ■ Players 1-4

Like the others in the series, this offers fantastic ball physics and a brilliant table to play on.

Project Overkill 72%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Flashy but dull-as-ditch-water shoot 'em up. Not even the handful of puzzles spice it up...

Psychic Detective 74%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Spanning three CDs, it's not that it's a giant-sized game, it's just a load of video footage. Not bad but by no means great.

Psychic Force 71%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Standard fare beat 'em up. All the usual moves and fighters but poor executed. Oh well.

R-Type 81%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Two really old shoot 'em ups for the price of one. Both look pretty poor but both pack some serious gameplay.

Racing Simulation-Monaco Grand Prix 82%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

At last! A Formula One game that doesn't suck. Yeah, you could've knocked us over with a feather, too...

Rage Racer 93%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Goyjush-looking, super-fast racing game that's lush to play. Get it, worship it, thank us for recommending it.

Raiden Project 72%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Dodgy flight sim which gets repetitive all too quickly. It's average, even if you're into this sort of thang.

Rally Cross 80%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-4

Tasty little off-road racing game made even better by its multitaltastic four-player mode.

Rally Cross 2 78%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

None too serious sequel with fun gameplay and ridiculous crashes. The track editor is a nice touch.

Rapid Racer 82%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Speedboat racing with kick-ass soundtrack and some coolio water effects. Slow in two-player mode.

Rapid Reload 75%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Entertaining but ultimately limited platform shoot 'em up. There's much better stuff available...

Ray Storm 83%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Vertical blasting shoot 'em up that's tough, demanding and fast. Also packs some great weapons.

Ray Tracers 73%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Fantastic while it lasts, but this zippy car chase game is over in the first couple of hours. Darn!

Reboot 72%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Hoverboard game that's more a frantic blast than futuristic racer. Plays well, but a bit limited.

Reloaded 71%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Top-down blast with big weapons and a surprising number of levels. Very samey after a while.

Resident Evil 2 95%

■ Price £49.99 ■ Players 1

Two discs full of pant-filling surprises. Super-tense and gloriously gory, we guarantee you'll love it.

Resident Evil Director's Cut 91%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Virtually identical to the first one, but with a couple of extra scenes. Get the original for £20 instead.

Retre Force 75%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Robotic space cats run riot in this old-style shoot 'em up. Don't bother buying, rent it instead.

Want to know more about a game?

Then give us a call. We'll help you out

There's a lot of games available on the 'Station. Nearly 600 in fact. So we know it's not easy choosing which to buy. That's why we're here. To help. If you want advice give us a call on the number below and we'll do our best to sort you out.

PHONE 0171 972 6700
And ask to speak to PlayStation. We're here to help.

Return Fire 88%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Comical army game where you choose your vehicle and drive it into battle. Fast, furious and fun.

Ridge Racer Type 4 93%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Excellent racing game. Right up there with Gran Turismo. Buy it. Now.

Risk 73%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Expensive alternative to the classic boardgame of world domination. Your dad'll probably like it.

Rival Schools 89%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Schoolkids go psycho in the playground in this sweet 3D fighter. You can even train up your geezas.

Riven 80%

■ Price £49.99 ■ Players 1

You'll pay big bucks for this 'cos it's on five discs. Very clever and good looking, but very, very slow.

Road Rash 3D 80%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Bike racing with two ways to win: drive like a demon or use chains and other weapons to cane the other riders. Different.

Rogue Trip 76%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Cars wars set in different arenas. Grab victory by rescuing tourists and filling the enemy with bullets.

Rollcage 85%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Like WipeOut on the roads. Which means lots of speed and driving on the ceiling. So, yeah: it rocks.

Rosco McQueen 78%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Firefighting thang in which you've gotta save buildings before they're burnt to the ground. More suited to youngsters.

Rushdown 78%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Mountain biking, snowboarding and kayaking all on the one disc. Shame it's not that great.

R-Type Delta 85%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Old-style space shoot 'em up sees you flying across the screen offing baddies. Still takes no prisoners.

SCARS 83%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Super Computer Animal Racing Simulation, otherwise known as good-for-a-laff tyre burner for up to four players using a multitap.

Shadow Master 78%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Buggy-based first-person shooter set in the future. Loads of blasting but gets a bit boring after a while.

Sim City 2000 87%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

First you build a city, then you've got to run it. Pretty heavy going but rewarding if you stick at it. Easier to control with the mouse.

Skill Monkeys 78%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Plasticine characters and far-out levels makes this platformer a unique, if not entirely brilliant action game.

Snow Racer 79%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Ski or snowboard down some dangerously steep slopes. Great freestyle mode but not much else.

Street Fighter Alpha 3 85%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Smart enough beat 'em up all right, but the good news is: it uses the PocketStation.

Street Fighter Collection 73%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Not-that-great compilation of three Street Fighter games, two of which are dead old and extremely similar. Shame.

Street Fighter Ex Plus Alpha 93%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

It's Street Fighter in 3D and y'know what, it rocks. Fast and full of great moves, you should have this in.

Street Racer 71%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

Average racing game which is only memorable for the multiplayer game. Which isn't that great, either. Ops.

Suioden 75%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Boring as hell to look at, but role-playing freaks'll get moist over this. It's a bit dull for the rest of us, though.

Super Puzzle Fighter 2 Turbo 92%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

The most addictive game we've played, EVER. And it's only a dead simple puzzle game.

Supersonic Racers 74%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Playable but flawed racer with tiny cars and interesting tracks. Not as good as Micro Machines.

Knowledge: new every month

What does it do?

The Dual Shock pad

The Dual Shock's simply the best videogames controller in the world. If you don't have one, you're not just missing out on super-precise analogue control but you'll have no idea how good the way-cool rumbling action feels. Dead good with the games below.

Good vibrations

In Silent Hill, the pad imitates your panicky heartbeat. Cool. In Metal Gear Solid, the pad jumps around when you're possessed by a psychic terrorist. But coolest of all is Gran Turismo, where the vibrations of every car are different.



Swagman 77%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Arcade fun set in a weird dreamscape. Looks flat and pretty dull, a bit like the gameplay.

Syndicate Wars 50%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

Ultra-cool and very violent shoot'em up with neat four-player multi-tap game. Pretty good with a mouse.

Syphon Filter 92%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

You're a toolled-up James Bond in this class spy shoot'em up.



Tank Racer 71%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

As a two-player game you'll get a bit of value, but in single-player mode racing tank's just doesn't cut it.

Tekken 3 96%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

The daddy of all beat'em ups, this is so good it hurts. Superb graphics, moves and fighters.

Tempest X3 80%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Retro shooter. Gameplay's sweet and the graphics are OK, but it doesn't last long enough.

Tenchu: Stealth Assassin 52%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Be rough like a ninja and sting like a bee in this awesome game of blood-spilling and stealth.

Tenka 72%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Slow-moving first-person blast with run-of-the-mill graphics and gameplay. Needs an action injection.

Tennis Arena 76%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Slick tennis game that's not the best we've seen, but it's not all bad. Has a four-player multitap option.

Test Drive 4x4 76%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

There are stacks of off-roaders available and this isn't up there with the best of 'em. Oh well.

Test Drive 5 77%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Tarmac racer which just manages to drag itself from the pit of mediocrity. But only just...

Tetris Plus 79%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Well, it's Tetris innit? A pretty good version of the classic puzzler, but the price tag's a bit steep.

Theme Hospital 84%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Build your own hospital, making sure the patients are cared for and the doctors aren't overworked. Not bad. Easier with mouse.

Theme Park 85%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Same as above, but this time you've got a theme park complete with rollercoasters and rides to play around with.

Tiger Shark 72%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Impossibly high difficulty level makes this otherwise tasty shooter a bit hard to enjoy. C'mon guys, go easy on us...

Tiger Woods 99% 78%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

A pretty good golf sim which only falls short because of its cruddy putting system.

Time Commando 76%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Unusual sci-fi mix of adventure and shooting. Odd control system takes some getting used to.

Tobal No.1 91%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

A beat'em up with a difference - it's got the one-on-one ruck, but also a cool exploration mode.

TOCA Touring Car 2 93%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

The graphics are juicy, the handling is sweet and gameplay is spot on. Two-player ain't so bad, either.

Tomb Raider II 94%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Lara's second adventure is good but boy, is it a git to beat. Soon to be going Platinum so hang on.

Tomb Raider III 93%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Three games later and she's still kicking ass. Bigger than the other two and just as exciting.

Tombi 79%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Typically Jap-style cartoon platformer with a pink-haired caveman who chucks pigs around. Just don't ask, OK?

Total NBA 96 74%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-8

Just when you thought it was safe to enter the game shop... Another b-ball game appears. Noo!

Total NBA 97 76%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-8

Slightly better than the last but still not great. Only check out if you really like basketball games.

Total NBA 98 79%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-8

The best of the series' sum. But again it's only recommended to true fans of this slam-dunkin' sim.

Tokyo Highway Battle 74%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Substandard Rage Racer done set on the streets of, um, Tokyo. The only good bit is the powersliding.

Toshinden 3 76%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

A beat'em up best left for beginners, 'cos you can pull off some cool-looking moves just by hammering the buttons. Yawn.

Transport Tycoon 84%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Your city's in dire need of a decent transport system and you're the guy to sort it. Pretty good if you've got patience.

Treasure of the Deep 78%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Make money by stealing booty from shipwrecks. Slow-paced underwater exploration blaster.

Triple Play 2000 79%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Baseball? Quite frankly, we don't want to play baseball but, truth be told, if we did, we'd play this one. Not bad. Easier with mouse.

Tunnel B1 77%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

It's looks the business but gameplay's not so sweet. Ultra-repetitive first-person shoot'em up.

Twisted Metal 79%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Mad Max-style car shooting. A taste of things to come in the superb sequel, but this isn't quite so slick.

Twisted Metal World Tour 87%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Dodgy graphics aside, this is a great car-based blast which really rocks in two-player. Great battle arenas, too.

The Unholy War 85%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Part of it's like a chess game with good graphics, the other bit's a frantic blast between two fighters. Racy.

UW 77%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Footy game great looks and gameplay to match. We

UEFA Champions League Season 98/99 91%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Footy game great looks and gameplay to match. We

V-Rally 2 94%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Great as a one-player off-road racer, but even better

Victory Boxing 74%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

More tactical than your standard beat'em up, this is slow and not much fun.

Victory Boxing 2 76%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

More of the same but with slightly better graphics. We prefer our fighters to be a bit faster.

Vigilante 8 91%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Cool-looking destruction derby with wicked cars kitted out with serious weaponry. Ace in two-player.

Virtual Pool 79%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Not a bad pool game but let's face it, you can't beat chalking the cue down your local.

Viva Football 84%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Class footy game with all the best international teams from the last 30-odd years. Unique control system works well.

VR Baseball 71%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

The only baseball game you're ever likely to want to play, and even then it's only average.

Vs 80%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

LA gang war beat'em up that's fun but the graphics ain't all that. Still, gameplay packs a punch.

V Tennis 72%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Average tennis game which really doesn't stand up against competition like Sampras Extreme.

Virtual Pool 79%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Not a bad pool game but let's face it, you can't beat chalking the cue down your local.

Warcraft 2 85%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Pretty cool Command & Conquer-style strategy game. No mouse support and lack of two-player mode a mistake.

WarGames: Defcon 1 88%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Fun-on-action strategy game with loads of firefights and action to sink your teeth into.

Warhammer, SOTH 78%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Shadow of the Horned Rat's a slow strategy beast based on the tabletop game. A bit limited for most.

Rent It

Warhammer II: Dark Omen 84%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Better than the first but not by much. Pretty deep and therefore difficult to get into. Action shooter which could've been much better.

Rent It

Warhawk 79%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Instantly playable even though the controls are perhaps a bit tricky to begin with. Action shooter which could've been much better.

Rent It

Warzone 2100 87%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

War strategy game with loads missions to get your teeth into. If strategy's your bag, you'll get into this one.

Rent It

Wayne Gretzky's 3D Hockey 98 74%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Fast 'n' furious, but it won't last you that long. Stick to renting it only.

Rent It

WCW Vs The World 78%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Surprisingly good wrestling game with a whopping 60 characters. Even if you hate the sport you'll have a laugh with this.

Rent It

Wild 9 78%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Slickly presented and well-thought out platformer that's just too goddamn slow.

Rent It

Wild Arms 83%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Hardcore role-player for the kinda guy who wears thick-rimmed specs and a second-hand anorak. You have been warned.

Rent It

Williams Arcade Classics 75%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

A retro compilation with five good games out of six games, one of which is Defender. Result!

Rent It

Wing Commander III 76%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Features fantastic video sequences and the bloke who played Luke Skywalker, but the gameplay ain't so good.

Rent It

World Cup 98 85%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8

The official game of the 98 tournament so it features all the proper teams and players. Not perfect but pretty good. Uses two multitaps.

Rent It

World Cup Golf 77%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8

The graphics are spot on but some of the courses are unforgiving, especially when you're penalised for mistakes you didn't make.

Rent It

World League Soccer 80%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

A great game, the sequel of which is endorsed by Michael Owen. Still good. Works with multitap.

Rent It

Wreckin' Crew 72%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

This small car racer is bright and colourful and provides a lorra laughs. It's still pretty flawed though.

Rent It

WWF Attitude 80%

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Full-on grapple-fest with lush graphics and all the wrestlers. The Create-a-Wrestler option is even better than WWF Warzone's.

Rent It

WWF Warzone 78%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Wrestling game which is playable enough, but it's still nothing special. The create wrestler option is cool.

Rent It

WWF Wrestlemania 71%

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

More of the same, but much dodgier graphics. The moves aren't particularly exciting and neither's the game.

Rent It

X-Com: Enemy Unknown 82%

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Platinum games

Abe's Oddysee 91%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Stuffed with gameplay goodness and laughs a-plenty. The puzzles are rock solid but you'll dig it anyway.



Alien Trilogy 85%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

First-person blast based on the smash movies. Crammed with nasty aliens to bag and coolio weapons to collect.

Bust-a-Move 2 89%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Overly cute puzzle game which plays like a dream. Pop coloured balls to win. Simple but enjoyable.

Command & Conquer 90%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Guide your troops through enemy-riddled battlefields, building stuff as you go. Slow but still good.

Command & Conquer Red Alert 93%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Rock solid strategy game which looks lush and plays sweet. Two-player link-up mode is neat.

Crash Bandicoot 86%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Playable but frustrating platformer which looks the biz. Not as much variation as the sequels, but great value for money.

Crash Bandicoot 2 87%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Fact is, Crash Bandicoot games are damn good platformers. And this is no exception.

Croc 78%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Super-cute 3D platform romp where cuddly Croc's gotta rescue his furball buddies. Looks nice, but it's a bit too kiddy for us.

Destruction Derby 72%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Looks basic and gameplay's as shallow as a paddling pool. Two-player link-up is quite a laugh.

Destruction Derby 2 89%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Graphics are tons better and so's the game. Pull off spectacular crashes or race like a demon, it's up to you.

Die Hard Trilogy 91%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Three games in one, and they're all peachy. You'll need a lightgun for the second one.



Doom 90%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

The original blood-spattered corridor shooter. Action-packed, great fun and a great two-player link-up game. Smart.

Excalibur 2555AD 77%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Tries to be Tomb Raider but misses by a mile. Still, the fantasy story line is interesting enough...

Fade to Black 87%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Sci-fi mix of puzzle-solving and shooting. It's dead hard but stick it out and you won't be disappointed.

FIFA 96 58%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-4

This is an old git compared to the newer, better-looking games like ISS Pro 98. Not even worth £20, really.

FIFA 98: Road to World Cup 60%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-8

International teams qualify for the 98 World Cup. Looks OK but plays like a dog.

Final Fantasy VII 88%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

One of those role-playing games you either love or you hate. A steal at £19.99 but nevertheless we recommend try before you buy.



Firestorm: Thunderhawk 2 82%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Helicopter shoot 'em up that's a sweet mix of strategy and action. Just released on charity pack with three other games.

Formula 1 88%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

More than competent racing sim based on the 95 F1 season. Graphics are a bit blocky but hey, we still like. Uses link-up cable.

Formula 1 97 89%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Great racing sim endowed all the proper drivers 'n' teams, plus nifty hi-res graphics. The two player game is whiffy.

Gran Turismo 93%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Too realistic for some, but this is still probably the best racer around! Grab a dual shock and go.



Grand Theft Auto 85%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Crappy-looking but great fun to play. Steal cars, work for the mob, run riot. Hallelujah!

G-Police 84%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

You're the cops. You pilot a cop copter. You blow stuff up across 35 different missions. What's to dislike?

Heart of Darkness 86%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Platform affair which looks good enough to eat and plays OK too. It's probably too damn frustrating by far.

Hercules 76%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Cartoony platform japes in a variety of styles. You've got Disney to thank for this one.

International Track & Field 90%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-4

An excellent party game for four players. Hammer the buttons to rack up the fastest times in this Olympic-standard sports game.

ISS Pro 91%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Still up there with the best footy games. A bit slow, but plays sweet. You won't find a better bargain.

Legacy of Kain: Blood Omen 88%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Enormous vampire adventure overflowing with virgins and blood-sucking. Doesn't look great but it's cool to play.

Loaded 75%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Ultra-violent shooter with bags of style but not much variation. Won't last you too long, then.

NEW Colin McRae Rally

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Foot to the floor action with the best rally sim money can buy. Buckle your seatbelt for the ride of your life.

So what's this then?

A brilliant off-road racer. Three rock-hard gameplay options, four cars (but tons more secret ones to unearth), and totally realistic tracks. Plus, for once, dents and damage actually have an effect on how your car drives. It's quite simply the best, most rounded off-roader you can get.

What's it like?

If you missed Colin McRae Rally the first time around, it's pretty much the most realistic, stunning-looking rally game you can get for PlayStation. It looks awesome, controls REALLY well and has tons of challenge packed into its perfectly formed chassis.

So should I pay the extra £15 for V-Rally 2?

Depends on your bag, baby. V-Rally 2's the coolest arcade rally racer you can get your hands on because you compete against other cars. Colin McRae's a different proposition altogether. It's still rallying, but it's more of a simulation where you race against the clock.

RATED 93%



■ The tracks really feel like proper rally efforts



■ Just like in a proper rally, there's no other cars



■ Tank it round cool-ass tracks in Mr McRae's signature Subaru Impreza

Knowledge: new every month

Cheat cards tested

When it comes to molesting your software, there's two frontrunners: the Datel Action Replay Professional and the Blaze X-Plorer Professional. Both Professionals'll set you back by fifty quid, but what you're getting for your money is a cunning piece of apparatus that can hack into any of your PlayStation games. Infinite energy, lives and what-have-you are no problem, and you can even hunt down codes yourself using the code creation mode. Plus, there're thousands of built-in codes to try on your collection of games. Just pause the game and turn on a cheat.

T-T-T-There's more!

To be honest, cheat carts are much of a muchness - but both the Action Replay (pictured), and the X-Plorer Professional are capable of more electronic wizardry than Q out of James Bond. They're capable of playing off all the videos on your games and even ripping out music! Suffice to say, your games are left bloodied and broken once the X-Plorer has finished with them.



The Lost World: Jurassic Park 41%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Dodgy dino blast where you play as either hunters or toothed-up reptiles hungry for blood. Twenty quid badly spent, we reckon.

Mickey's Wild Adventure 45%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Well dated 2D platformer with the cartoon rodent. Extremely cute and very, very boring. Avoid.

Micro Machines V3 51%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-4

Fint-sized cars steam round giant-sized tracks. Good for one player, absolutely creamy in four-player.



Mortal Kombat Trilogy 76%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

All the best Mortal Kombat bits in one package. Great if you like 'em gory, but we think it's just OK.

Moto Racer 79%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Straight-up, seat-of-your-pants motorcycle racing. Don't expect too much and you'll have a right laff.

Need for Speed 70%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Second-rate racer which can't decide whether to be an action game or simulation. C'mon, make up your mind...

Pandemonium! 91%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Bright, bold and bolshy 3D platformer with slick graphics and polished gameplay.

Pandemonium 2 79%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

This sequel's more colourful and has got a choice of character, but lacks the pizazz of the original.



PGA Tour 96 59%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-8

Looks ropey and the control system ain't so hot, especially when you're putting. Flawed, that's for sure.

Porsche Challenge 80%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

This nice-looking racer makes us wince in one-player, even if the controls are a bit dodge. Two-player's not so good.

Rayman 43%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

This game's older than your gran and, y'know, it looks it. 2D platformer which fails to excite.

Resident Evil 94%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Excellent scarefest with tons of head-popping gun action and staggering zombies. A must-have.

Ridge Racer 76%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Was great in its time and is still OK, but has been succeeded by so many other racers. Why not check out...

Ridge Racer Revolution 84%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Plays much the same as Ridge Racer, but has got some better tracks and a two-player link-up mode. Awful music though.

NEW Cool Boarders 2

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Reel out the big air clichés for the best boarding game on the 'Station.

So what's this then?

Cool Boarders 2 is fairly straightforward stuff. Take yourself and your board to the top of a snowy mountain. Then slide down it performing various tricks. Or choose the straight-up race mode and just slide down as fast as your little board will carry you.

What's it like?

Now for the bad news. Cool Boarders 2 looks a bit rough around the edges, with cardboard-looking scenery. But the gameplay's really fast and it plays like a dream. Also worthy of mention is the superb split-screen two-player mode where you battle it out in races or in the stunt-packed half-pipe event.

But isn't the sequel better?

The short answer: No. Cool Boarders 3 costs more money, plays worse and looks just as ropey. It's totally lacking the sparkling gameplay that made Cool Boarders 2 such a scorcher. Ignore number three and splash your cash on this Platinum classic.

RATED 84%

Road Rash 64%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Motorbiking/fighting mix where the winner's the first one to cross the line in one piece.

Soul Blade 90%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Lush sword-fighting beat 'em up with some mind-blowing special effects. Gameplay's simple but hey, it's still good.

Soviet Strike 92%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Rock solid chopper strategy shoot 'em up. Tough missions, top graphics and tricky gameplay.

Space Hulk 84%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Lead a team of dead 'ard space soldiers into battle against some nasty aliens. Slow strategy game.

Tekken 2 90%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Dead good to play but looks a bit crusty compared to the new 'un. Good, but let's face it, you're gonna go for the one below...

Tekken 2 95%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

For £20 this is the bargain of the year. No, make that the Millennium. Everything's great about this.

Time Crisis 91%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

The ultimate gun game which, for this price, will blow you away. You WILL need a lightgun though.

Toca Touring Car Championship 91%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Wicked crashes a speciality here, as crowds of tuned-up cars burn it round a handful of tracks.



V-Rally 92%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Dead enjoyable off-road effort with sweet gameplay and a tasty two-player game.

WipEout 78%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Fast futuristic racer with high-speed thrills and collect weapons. Looks very old compared to the sequel.

WipEout 2097 94%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Super-slick racing monster that's so fast your eyes'll pop. Good link-up game and excellent music.

Worms 82%

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-4

It's a real stinker for one player, but plug in a multitap, get yer mates around and let battle commence. Cool.



Every kind of snowboarding event is in this little masterpiece, so get out on the slopes and get going

Tomb Raider

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Lara's first adventure is pretty much the perfect mix of action and puzzling. You really should have this.



Tomb Raider II

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

Probably the worst of all Tomb Raiders. But still awesome. And for £19.99 you can't go wrong.

Total Drivin'

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-4

Straightforward arcade racing for up to four players, using a link-and-split-screen option. Nowt special.

True Pinball

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

It's got four tables but all of 'em are trash. Bite the bullet and fork out the extra cash for one of the Pro Pinball games instead.

V-Rally

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Dead enjoyable off-road effort with sweet gameplay and a tasty two-player game.

WipEout

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1-2

Fast futuristic racer with high-speed thrills and collect weapons.

WipEout 2097

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Super-slick racing monster that's so fast your eyes'll pop. Good link-up game and excellent music.

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It's a real stinker for one player, but plug in a multitap, get yer mates around and let battle commence. Cool.

and the rest...

2Xtreme **55%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Really poor sequel to Extreme Games.

360 **50%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Race ultra-fast hoverpods around river rapids. It sucks.

3D Lemmings **69%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
OKish 3D graphics. Uninteresting and awkward gameplay.

4-4-2 **14%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
An absolute disgrace of a football game.

Actua Ice Hockey **65%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
There are too many ice hockey games around already. Nuff said.

Actua Soccer Club Edition **60%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Same as the first Actua Soccer, but with club teams. Duh.

Adidas Power Soccer 98 **55%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Crappy old footy game which doesn't cut the mustard.

Adidas Soccer International 97 **64%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
A follow-up to the first 'un, and likewise just as slack.

Agent Armstrong **67%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Mindless blasting, easy puzzles and daft graphics.

Air Race **66%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Racing takes to the skies. Easy to pick up but not much fun.

All Star Soccer **34%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Tries to mix footy with comedy commentary. Fails.

Andretti Racing **70%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Link-up four-player's OK, but the rest is nothing special.

Aquanaut's Holiday **53%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Environmentally friendly undersea adventure. Wet, but not wild.

Area 51 **52%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy lightgun game which is, like, Dullsville.

Ark of Time **46%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Bland puzzler: too boring and too hard. Get outta here!

Assault Rigs **68%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A nice idea, but just too easy and too simple for its own good.

Asterix **30%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Unbelievably tedious mix of strategy and platform. Ugh!

Atari Collection **54%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Retro compilation: oldie, but no goldie.

Atari Collection 2 **55%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
More retro 'classics'. Yeah, right...

Asteroids **70%**

Price £29.95 **Players** 1-2
Sure, it's a classic 80s arcade blaster, but couldn't

Atlantis **29%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Tremendously dull adventure-type malarky.

Attack of the Saucermen **27%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Ultra-shit platformer where you play a stranded alien.

Auto Destruct **69%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Cop show-style driving and shooting game with fizz.

Ayrton Senna Kart Duel **32%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Very grim, substandard racer. Avoid, and that's an order.

Ayrton Senna Kart Duel 2 **35%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A karting game with all the fun of a lobotomy. Nasty.

Azure Dreams **67%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
This RPG is packed with good ideas, but is ultimately tedious.

Battle Arena Toshinden 2 **61%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Great visuals but the gameplay doesn't cut it.

Battle Stations **52%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Nice battleship concept, but it's just so basic.

Batman Forever **28%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A real stinker. A beat'em up in the loosest sense.

Beast Wars: Transformers **45%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Godawful shoot'em up with robot animals.

Blast Chamber **54%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
It's a futuristic game of tag. No, really, it is...

Blasto **56%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Appalling 3D platformer. We really don't like this.

Blaze and Blade **40%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Supremely grating role-playing which is no fun.

Bloodlines **40%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Kind of like a game of sci-fi tag, if you see what we mean.

Bomberman **65%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-5
Being multitap-compatible doesn't save this action strategy bobbins

Bomberman Fantasy Race **35%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
This kiddie-fied racer is just a waste of good CD.

Carnage Heart **64%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Build a robot then take it into battle. More strategy than action.

Casper **62%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Graphics are fine but it's a bit of a stinker to play.

Castrol Honda Superbike Challenge **30%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Ugly, boring and unbelievably slow, this bike effort's a shocker.

Cheesy the Mouse **65%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Awful main character hides some average gameplay.

Chessmaster 3D **57%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Look, Grandad, we don't want your sort round here...

Chill **52%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
This snowboarding game is the pits. Much better stuff available.

City of the Lost Children **68%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Excellent graphics but wait, the gameplay's very slow.

Clock Tower **43%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Horror adventure that lacks tension and excitement.

Courier Crisis **69%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Collect parcels, deliver them. No thanks.

Critical Depth **65%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Submarine shooter. OK in two-player, not so good for loners.

Criticom **61%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Nice enough graphics but this fighter looses out to Tekken.

Crow 2: City of Angels **33%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
You hated the movie, but you'll hate this fightin' adventure more.

Crypt Killer **27%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Zombie gun game. Bad just doesn't describe it.

Cyber Sled **58%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Lots 'o' shooting, bigger all action. Aww.

Cyber Speed **61%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
You face around wires. Like, why?

Cyberia **60%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Underwhelming shooter with very little gameplay.

D **62%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Looks all right but way too short. You'll finish it an hour.

Darkstalkers **68%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Street Fighter meets horror, with missing gameplay. Oops.

Davis Cup Tennis **50%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Stinky tennis game. Don't bother with this, please.

Defcon 5 **53%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1
3D adventure that's no fun. Zzzz...

Devil's Deception **60%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
You play Satan's helper in this dungeon manager game. Odd.

DiscWorld **65%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Fantasy comedy adventure which just isn't funny.

Dodgem Arena **68%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Arena-based spaceship ball game. Not great.

Dreams **24%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Nauseating psychedelic 3D platform-o-rama.

Dynasty Warriors **67%**

Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Swordy fighter which doesn't, um, cut it against Soul Blade.

E **32%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Scoot around arenas, shooting stuff from your spaceship.

Epidemic **64%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Corridor-based shooter which leads straight to Snoreville.

Evil Zone **61%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Simple gameplay makes this 3D fighter dull compared to Tekken 3.

Eliminator **32%**

Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Scoot around arenas, shooting stuff from your spaceship.

Epitemic **64%**

Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Corridor-based shooter which leads straight to Snoreville.

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Evil Zone **61%**

Price £39.99

Knowledge: updated every month

Explosive Racing

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

It's a cruddy racing game. That's all you need to know.

51%

Extreme Pinball

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Unrealistic ball movement so what's the point?

44%

Extreme Snow Break

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Rubbish snowboarding effort. Well stinky.

50%



FIFA 97

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

Very little improvement over 96, which wasn't much cop.

64%

FIFA 98: Road to World Cup

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8

Fairly average goal 'em up.

65%

Fighting Force

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Beat 'em up adventure. Way dull.

66%

Firo and Klawd

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Interesting buddy cop game which has no save game option. D'oh!

69%

Floating Runner

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

3D adventure platform thing. No good.

59%

Formula 1 98

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

Worse than the other two. Like, how did that happen?

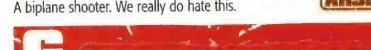
70%

Frenzy

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

A biplane shooter. We really do hate this.

16%



Galaxian 3D

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

Space shooter, but where's the gameplay gone?

36%

Gex

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

The original and worst lizard-based platformer.

68%

Goal Storm

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Clumsy players lumber around like geriatrics.

66%

Granstream Saga

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Role-playing tedium which smells bad.

55%

Grid Run

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

Game of tag only decent in multiplayer.

64%

GTA London

■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1

You need the original to play this add-on, but don't bother, we say

68%

Gunship

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Complex but fairly playable helicopter game.

70%

Guardian's Crusade

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Even compared to other role-playing games this is boring tosh.

35%



H

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Sci-fi shooter? Waste of space more like.

40%

Hardcore 4x4

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Dull all-terrain racing game with lack of tracks.

69%

Hebereke Popotto

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Not-much-fun two-player puzzle game.

42%

Hexen

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Very slow, very chunky first-person blast. Link-up.

50%

Hi-Octane

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2

Race speeders and blast away with weapons. Or buy WipOut 2097.

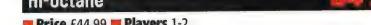
64%

Hybrid

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Doom-style action 'em up. A right balls-up.

14%



Independence Day

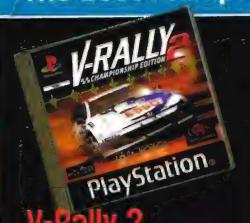
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

Shoot 'em up based on the film. Bog-standard stuff.

62%

Cheap nights in with your mates

The best multiplayer games for a good night in



V-Rally 2

Create your own track, then unleash it on your chums. Two-player and four-player split-screen modes make this the 'Station's best multiplayer racer.



Tekken 3

The essential fighting game for all PlayStation owners, although for cheaper multiplayer fun you can always go Platinum and pick up Tekken 2 for £20.



ISS Pro 98

OK, so it has a stroppy Italian on the cover, but other than that you'd have to be a lunatic to avoid what is easily the best 'Station football game. Essential.



Indy 500

Offensively average Indy car game that's dull, dull, DULL.



In the Hunt

2D submarine shoot 'em up that's, er, substandard. Huh.



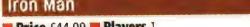
ISS Deluxe

Dodgy footballer that's seen better days.



Iron and Blood

Average 3D beat 'em up with swords 'n' stuff.



Iron Man

Sad 'n' shoddy. A fighter of appalling standards.



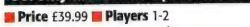
Iznogoud

The title says it all, really.



Jeremy McGrath Supercross 98

Repetitive two-player lightgun game. It made us physically sick.



Jet rider

Great idea, but this hov-bike racer's let down by... well, everything.



Jet Rider II

A sequel which is worse. Go figure...



Johnny Bazookatone

Rock 'n' roll platformer without little rock, bugger all roll.



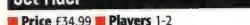
Judge Dredd

Comic book gun game which lacks imagination. Well average.



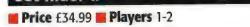
KI Arena Fighters

Kick-boxing sim which just isn't slick or quick enough.



Kick Off 97

OK-to-play footy game which looks ancient.



Kick Off World

Same ol' thing, but with international teams. Ooh.



King of Fighters 95

Price Rental only ■ Players 1-2
Only costs three quid to rent this beat 'em up.



Knockout Kings

Plenty of famous boxers to choose from, but it's just so slow.



Krazy Ivan

Robots with big guns fight, and nothing else happens. Oh, link-up.



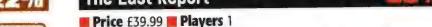
Kurushi

Block-based puzzler. Very mediocre.



L

The Last Report



Live Wire!

Make boxes in this tiring puzzle game. And that's it.



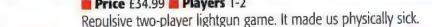
Lomax in Lemmingland

Lemmings in platform shocker! Actually it's not that bad...



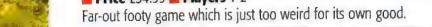
Lone Soldier

Second-rate soldier shoot 'em up which is way slow.



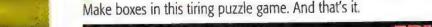
Lost Vikings 2

Arcade puzzler which is frustrating to play and rubbish to look at.



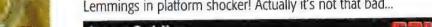
Maximum Force

More lightgun mediocrity you really shouldn't bother with.



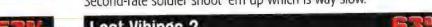
MegaMan Battle and Chase

Cartoon multiplayer racing. Just get lost, please...



MegaMan Legends

3D adventure. Looks like it's fifty years old, and that's being kind...



MegaMan X3

Age-old platformer which is way too difficult.



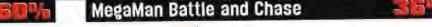
MegaMan X4

Oh c'mon, don't palm us off with the same old platform rubbish.



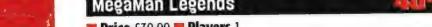
MegaMan 8

Another name, yet strangely similar to the rest. Rubbish.



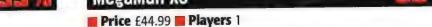
Men in Black

Hugely disappointing adventure based on the movie.



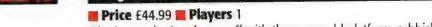
NHL Face Off 97

Huge disappointment, here.



NHL Face Off 99

And still more of the same hockey toss.



NHL Open Ice

Arcade-style hockey game. No great shakes, here.

Midnight Run

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Semi-fast racer that's a total turd to play. Yuk.

Monkey Hero

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1

Cartoon-style platform 'high jinx'. Er, hardly...

Monopoly

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Same as the board game but on your telly.

Mortal Kombat 4

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2

Another MK fighter which offers very little new stuff.

Mortal Kombat Mythologies

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1

Boring, unplayable quest-version of age-old beat 'em up.

Motor Mash

■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4

Derivative comic racing game: nice graphics but it's slow and dull.

Mr Domino

■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1

Puzzler let down by poor control.

N

Nagano Winter Olympics

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4

Snow-based Track & Field game. Arse, quite frankly.

Namco Museum Vol.1

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

It's got Pacman, but everything else is yawny.

Namco Museum Vol.2

■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2

NHL Powerplay 96	65%	Revolution X	48%	Spawn: The Eternal	32%	Tommi Makinen Rally	50%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4 End-to-end stuff. OK, but there's so much better stuff on offer.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 A gungame starring... Aerosmith? Oh pur-lease...		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Useless blend of action and adventure. Avoid.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Rally effort ain't much cop. In fact it's pants.	
The Note	45%	Rise 2: Resurrection	60%	Speed King	45%	Top Gun: Fire at Will	66%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Very basic adventure. Boring and dull.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Robot fighting game which fails to impress.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Slow, boring and about as exciting as watching an egg boil.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Gung-ho movie spin-off not worth tracking down.	
Nova Storm	55%	Riot	67%	Speedster	64%	Trap Runner	50%
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Start game. Fire continuously. Finish game eventually. That's it.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-16 Despite its multiplayer option, this future sport's not much fun.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Top-down racer which lacks speed and playability.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Run around mazes planting bombs to catch out your mates. Dull	
O		Robotron X	66%	Spice World	21%	Trash It	57%
Off World Interceptor	58%	■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Simple, mindless and run-of-the-mill shooter.		■ Price £19.99 ■ Players 1 A shabby excuse for a game. Short and boring.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4 Platformer with big hammers. Shame it's just not interesting.	
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 A buggy racer set on the Moon. Weird, but not much cop.		Rug Rats	21%	Spider	65%	V	
Olympic Games	70%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4 Unbelievably crud cartoon games even the kids'll hate.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Innovative platformer, but no better than average.		Versailles	10%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4 More events than Track & Field, but not much fun to play.		Running Wild	70%	Sports Car GT	55%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 A point-'n-click adventure. Redefines the word...	
OnSide Soccer	45%	■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-4 Control cartoon characters running around colourful courses.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 This is a toss racing game. It's slow and looks pants.		Viper	70%
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Bland footy game not worth bothering with.		S		Starfighter 3000	60%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Cacky controls spoil this great-looking chopper shoot 'em up.	
P		Samurai Showdown	19%	Star Wars: Masters of Teras Kasi	30%	Virtual Golf	57%
Pax Corpus	30%	■ Price Rental only ■ Players 1-2 Sword-fighting which hits new depths...		■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2 Star Wars characters fighting. Could've been great but no.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4 Nowhere near as good as Actua Golf 3. Not even close...	
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Dire Tomb Raider wannabe. This is real slack.		San Francisco Rush	48%	Starwinder	58%	Virus	30%
Peak Performance	65%	■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2 Tedious drive through the streets of SF. No fun.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1 Simplistic racer where every level plays the same.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Film spin-off adventure that should be avoided like the plague.	
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Lots of options in this racer but not much else.		Sensible Soccer 2000	25%	Street Fighter Collection 2	60%	Virtual 2000	70%
Perfect Weapon	51%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Crusty old footballer lacks talent. Real nasty.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Three not so 'classic' Street Fighter games on one disc.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Rather average as space shoot 'em ups go.	
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1 Beat 'em up cum adventure. Rubbish in both departments.		Sentient	61%	Street Fighter: The Movie	23%	VMX Racing	50%
Pet in TV	60%	■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 How can a game which looks so bad get released? Ridiculous.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Just as bad as the movie. In other words, CRAP.		■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1 Dirt bike racer which looks a thousand years old. Well, almost.	
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2 Tamagotchi-style pet for your PlayStation? No thanks...		Sentinel Returns	30%	Street Sk8er	70%	VR Powerboat Racing	40%
PGA Tour 97	65%	Shanghai True Valor	18%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 We wanted a skateboarding game. Thing is, we wanted a good one.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Speedboat racing which is waaaay nasty.	
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4 Good-looking but gameplay's the same as all the rest.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Oriental puzzler which you will not like.		W		Wargods	59%
PGA Tour 98	68%	Shellshock	65%	Strikepoint: The Hex Missions	66%	■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 3D fighting game with mushy graphics and lousy gameplay.	
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4 Same as the last one, apart from a couple of slight improvements.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1 Second-rate tank game with shooty bits. Not brilliant, no siree.		Striker 96	53%	WCW Nitro	63%
Pitball	69%	Shockwave	56%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Poor helicopter game. Try Soviet Strike instead.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 No great shakes from the Oiish wrestler.	
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4 Futuristic sports game. Looks average, plays average.		Skeleton Warriors	69%	Super Football Champ	46%	WCW Vs NWO Thunder	65%
Player Manager	63%	■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1 Scrolling fighter which smells of old men's trousers.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Dull, drab, bland... Get the idea about this footy turd?		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Some all right bits, but overall this really isn't much to shout about.	
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1 Predictable results spoil this footy management game.		Slam 'n' Jam 96	64%	Super Pang Collection	53%	Wing Commander IV	50%
Pool	70%	■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Dodgey camera views and rough gameplay.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Retro bubble-bursting arcade game. Too simple, really.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Great video sequences and shaky gameplay.	
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-16 Average pool game with too many American rules.		Small Soldiers	58%	Swing	64%	Wingover	40%
Power Soccer 2	60%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 No variety, dull graphics and absolutely no link to the film.		■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-2 Super-confusing puzzle game that's still strangely addictive		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Boring aerial shoot 'em up with lotsa planes. Zzzz.	
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-4 This average soccer game won't hold your interest for long.		T		Tai Fu	45%	Wingover 2	51%
Pro 18 Golf	45%			■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 A kung fu tiger. That's a bad idea, and this is a bad game.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Short of flight sims we may be, but this is fairly poor.	
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4 Weird-looking golf sim that's rubbish to play, too.		Smash Court Tennis	57%	Ten Pin Alley	54%	World League Basketball	30%
Psybadek	67%	■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-4 Hoverboarding game that's more adventure than racing. Poor.		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-6 Novelty bowling game which looks and plays like a dog.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-8 The worst b-ball game we've seen. Phew...	
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1 Novelty bowling game which looks and plays like a dog.		Space Jam	65%	Test Drive 4	70%	WWF in your House	43%
R		■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Dull movie-based cash-in basketball game with Bugs Bunny and co.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Lots of tracks but ultimately this 'un's too slow and ugly.		X.Y.Z	
Rampage World Tour	59%	Smash Court Tennis	57%	Three Lions	50%	X2	58%
■ Price £34.99 ■ Players 1-3 Choose your monster then smash some cities. Extremely basic.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-4 Slow and unresponsive tennis game.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Awful to look at and rubbish to play. A real footy stinker.		Xenocroc	20%
Rampage Universal Tour	54%	Space Jam	65%	Test Drive: Off Road	45%	■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 A tedious shoot 'em up that's way too difficult.	
■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-3 Ages old arcade monster basher gets no better over time		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Slow and unresponsive tennis game.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Novelty bowling game which looks and plays like a dog.		X-Games Pro Boarders	69%
Rascal	53%	Smash Court Tennis	57%	Test Drive 4	70%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 A real dog turd of a game.	
■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1 Awful camera angles make this 3D platformer almost unplayable.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Slow and unresponsive tennis game.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Lots of tracks but ultimately this 'un's too slow and ugly.		YoYo's Puzzle Park	45%
R/C Stunt Copter	55%	Space Jam	65%	Three Lions	50%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Stupid puzzle thing which'll stretch your patience	
■ Price £29.99 ■ Players 1-2 Stupidly difficult to control. This toy chopper sim's a non-starter.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Slow, clumsy 3D shooting game which seriously lacks appeal.		Zeitgeist (Jupiter Strike)	43%	Zero Divide	31%
Real Bout: Fatal Fury	30%	■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Very stale and slow beat 'em up. Not even worth renting.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Awful to look at and rubbish to play. A real footy stinker.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Very suspect 3D fighter. Best left alone.	
■ Price Rental only ■ Players 1-2 Not even the Star Wars connection saves this shooter.		Rebel Assault 2	45%	Test Drive: Off Road	45%	Zero Divide 2	53%
Red Asphalt: Rock & Roll Racing 2	66%	■ Price £44.99 ■ Players 1-2 Speedsters with awesome firepower fail to mix.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Novelty bowling game which looks and plays like a dog.		■ Price £39.99 ■ Players 1-2 Very suspect 3D fighter. Best left alone.	

I just don't get it...

Answers to your burning questions

What is SCART?

It's that square-shaped connection on the back of your TV. Buy a SCART cable for your PlayStation, stick it in and you'll get a far superior picture and better sound compared to the basic lead you get with your machine. You also need a SCART cable if you chip your PlayStation in order to play import games, or they'll come out in black and white. Not all tellies are SCART compatible, though, so make sure you've got the right socket before splashing the cash.

Great game endings you've got to see!



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Players: 1

First Out: November 97

#8 Final Fantasy VII

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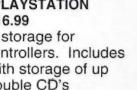
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